

## Slang Words Used by Millennials in Pekalongan

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### Abstract

One of the phenomena in millennial era is a slang language. It is not based on the standard language, but it is used as a daily language among the particular community. This article aims to find the slang language used by the millinneals in Pekalongan, describe the structure of words and interpret its meaning. The method used in this study was descriptive quality. The object was the millennials living in Pekalongan. The instrument in this article was a questionnaire. The step in technique of analyzing the data was to record the information that had been obtained, spread the structure of the slang language and interpret the meaning. The researcher found that the form of word formation process used in slang word by millenials were blend, acronym, loan words, clipping, and extreme internal change. Based on the analysis, the word blend is coming from the combination of all Indonesian word. All of the acronyms found were from English sentences or phrases. The loan words were borrowing from Javanese and English, but most of the loan words were borrowed from English. The meaning of slang words could be interpreted from the conceptual meaning of the elements that made up the words itself..

**Keywords:** slang, millennial, Pekalongan

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## INTRODUCTION

Millenials era is an era which closes to the use of technology. Nowadays, many young people call millenials era as the era of today's learners. This era asks the young people to have, develop and produce all things supported by technology. According to (Januszewski, 2008), educational technological is the study and ethical practice of facilitating learning and improving performance by creating, using, and managing appropriate technological processes and resources. Based on that definition, it can be concluded that the development of the era makes technology as a source of all sources in various field of life. Based on Januszewski and Molenda, there are seven different important things from the definition of

technology. One of those, that is closely to the learning is learning technology.

Learning technology is a technology which facilitate a learning include design of learning environment. Its design actually relates to the learning source and environment where learners are. It also relates to the use of media in learning.

Learning media is a tool which can be used to improve learning quality. According to (Hamid, 2020), learning media is classified into several kinds such as printed media, photography media, audio media and audio visual media.

The most complicated media is audio visual media. The example of it is television. Television provides many information for the viewer. Sometimes, it will help the viewer to

update their information. Not only share about the entertainment but also viewer can absorb the newest language used in millenials era implicitly. Its language in informal situation used for young people is called slang.

Slang language is one of the examples of language variation. (Situmorang, 2021) state that slang language is generally used as a means of communication among a group of adolescents during a certain period. Those slang language generally can be understood by the people in a community, especially for adolescent communities. They often used certain language in a certain community as well. Actually it is used in a television and social media too.

Phenomena of slang language also appeared in Pekalongan's adolescents. Pekalongan adolescents are in the range of 18 to 20 years old. In other words the adolescents which is meant here are the students of University of Pekalongan, especially in the second semester. They often used slang language in their daily conversation, such as the words of "pansos, santuy and halu." The word of "pansos" is often uttered by them in their Indonesian conversation. This word has been popular in this era. Look at this word, actually there is no literal meaning of "pansos" based on dictionary. In Indonesian language, the word of "pansos" is a acronym of "panjat sosial." This acronym is generally used to show people who is looking for attention. "Pansos" is often uttered by others in giving a comment. The same analysis of the words "santuy and halu" in finding the meaning.

Based on that phenomena which is common used around the adolescent, the researchers conducted the research entitled "Slang Words Used by Millenials in Pekalongan."

## **LANGUAGE**

Language is the most important media in transferring an idea all among people. According to (Ba'dulu, 2009), language is a system of arbitrary, system of vocal symbol which permits all people in a given culture, or other people who have learned the system of that culture, to communicate or to interact. Based on that definition, it can be

concluded that language is a group of systems which is related one another and having the function as a media in delivering the result of that system. Looking at that argument, it can be seen that the use of language is the important one, it can not be done if there is no language.

## **LANGUAGE VARIATION**

A discussion about language and its definition will not be separated to the term of language variation. Language variation is people's different way in expressing meaning in different structure. The factors of language variation is divided into two. Those are social factor and language factor. Those factors will have different explanation. Social factor is the social background from where, when, who, whom and what the language is used. Meanwhile, language factor is the factor comes from the language itself. The example of language factor is language change.

Talking about language variation, also discussing about types of language variation is divided into four types. Those types are language variation based on language user, language variation based on usage, language variation based on degree of formality and language variation based on the channel. The examples of language variation based on users are idiolect, dialect, sociolect, chronolect, acrolect, basilect, vulgar, slang, colloquial, jargon, argot and cant. The second type is language variation based on its usage. Language variation based on usage is also called as register. The example of this language variation is when this language used in journalism, literature, military. In all usage, each background will have different language. The next type is language variation used in literature. In this type, the language used will be beautiful language. It is used to point out to aesthetic side. The example of this will be ignoring the morphological and syntactical pattern. The last type is language used in journalism which also has certain characteristics, simple, brief and communicative. The type of language variation is also called register. The third type of language variation based on its degree of formality. The language variations are frozen, formal, consultative, casual and

intimate. Frozen language is the most formal language. It is usually used in ceremony, for example oath taking. Formal language is the language which is used in formal situation. The other example based on degree of formality is consultative. Consultative is the language used in school conversation or meeting. In different implementation is the use of language in casual. Casual here means language used in informal setting. The example of this type is intimate language. the intimate language is the language which used with some that the doer of the conversation already familiar. As the example in the real life is family.

The last type of language variation is based on the way we use the language or the medium we used. Language variation can be in the form of spoken and written language.

## **SLANG**

Slang is the main point in this article. Focussing in adolescents who are in Pekalongan, especially the second semester students of Pekalongan University are having conversation using language which some of their utterance in slang language. Using slang language around them is not a strange thing here. Their community will understand what they are talking about although some of their words in slang language. In line to that statement, what is slang?

According to (Spolsky, 2004), slang is a special kind of 'intimate' or in group speech. Beside that, slang is also a kind of jargon marked by its rejection of formal rules. Moreover, slang is associated with peer group and gang speech, intentionally used to obtain some degree of secrecy. Based on Spolsky's statements above, it will be interesting thing for them who are using and for the hearers understanding the meaning of that slang language. It can be concluded that slang is the special language which grows up around people in the special community.

Another information of slang will be Slang is a psychosocial and cultural phenomenon (Lilik Istiqomah1, 2019). Based on that statement, it can be concluded that slang is a language which derives from a phenomena social in a particular

community, it also will be a cultural language when among people understand what they mean.

## **MORPHOLOGY**

Morphology is a scientific study about word structure. Morphology discusses not only word structure but also word formation process. Word formation process is the morphological process that explains how new words are formed. There many types of word formation process, those are affixation, cliticization, internal change, suppletion, stress and tone placement, reduplication, compounding, conversion, clipping, blends, backformation, acronym, anomatopoeia. (O'Grady, 1989).

## **PEKALONGAN'S MILLENNIALS ADOLESCENT**

Pekalongan millennial adolescent generally related to the character of want to be themselves. They make special community which influence to their style, such as their language used. Therefore, Pekalongan's millennial adolescent here are the students of second semester in Pekalongan University.

## **METHODS**

According to (Bogdan dan Taylor, 1975), qualitative method is a method which produces a descriptive data. The descriptive data meant here are oral or written form from people, phenomena, or behaviour which are observed. Based on that statement, descriptive qualitative method is a method which describe people or their behaviour in detail and depth to produce the description from the subject of research. The instrument used in this article was questionnaires. Those instruments consists the items which using morphology, word formation process and semantic approach.

The data of this research was the second semester students of Pekalongan University who were having a conversation. The technique in collecting the data which was used in this research were identification, classifying into the types of word formation, interpretation the meaning by having conceptual meaning, and concluding.

In identification the data, the researcher identified the words which included into slang language. In classifying, the researcher classify those slang languages into what types of the word formation and the type of meaning. The step was concluding. In concluding the research data, the researcher concluded the result and interpret the data using the theory.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The word formation processes found in the slang words used by millennial are blends, acronym, loan words, clipping, reduplication, and internal change. The first word formation process is blends. Blends is a word formation process created by combining the non morphemic parts of two words that already existing items. Blends is commonly formed by the initial part of the first word and the final part of the second one. Blends can also be formed by combining the initial parts from both of the elements. Sometimes, blends is formed by a process that seems to be called as compounding and combines all of one word with part of another word. Here are the examples of slang words that include as blends.

### Blends

The first example of slang word that included as blends was *pansos*. *Pansos* comes from 2 words, "*panjat*" and "*sosial*". *Panjat* means climbing, *sosial* means social. Here, the word *pansos* is created by blending the non morphemic parts of the word *panjat* and *sosial*. The "*pan*" is taken from the initial part of the word "*panjat*", while "*sos*" is taken from the initial word *sosial*. The meaning of *pansos* can be interpreted as climbing the social level instantly, or usually it is used when someone want to be famous instantly.

The next slang formed by blend is *japri*. *Japri* comes from the words "*jalur*" and "*pribadi*". *Jalur* means channel, while *pribadi* means private. Thus, *japri* means private channels. It can be interpreted as making a private channel or sending a message privately to make a private communication.

The third word of slang formed by blend is *bucin*. *Bucin* is a blend of words "*budak*" and "*cinta*". The word *budak* means slave, while *cinta* is

love. This word is usually used as adjective to describe people who are deeply in love, they become the slave of their love.

*Gercep* is a blend of words *gerak* and *cepat*. The word "*gerak*" means move and "*cepat*" means fast. This word is used to describe someone to move fast. It is a combination of non morphemic elements of *gerak* and *cepat*. From *gerak*, the non morphemic element "*ger*" is taken", while from *cepat*, the non morphemic element "*cep*" is taken.

The slang word *baper* can also be concluded as blend, because in its word formation, it is built up from the words *bawa* and *perasaan*. Then both of them are combined together and become blends. The word *baper* is the result of the combination of non morphemic element "*ba*" form *bawa* and "*per*" from *perasaan*. The meaning of the word *baper* can be said as someone that easily takes any emotions into their feeling.

The word *salting* is a slang word and its word formation process is blend. *Salting* is combination of words *salah* and *tingkah*. It is the result of combining non morphemic element "*sal*" from *salah* and "*ting*" from *tingkah*. The meaning from *salting* is to become awkward and clumsy in a situation.

*Gaje* is also one of the slang words used by millenials. It is the combination of word *gak* means no, and *jelas* means clear. This blend is the combination of non morphemic element of *ga* and *je*" from *gak* and *jelas*. It becomes *gaje*, and the maning of *gaje* is something that is not clear or ambiguous. It is used to refer someone do something unclearly and ambiguously. The other slang words used by millennial formed by blends are *Gercep* (*gerak* + *cepat*) *mantul* (*mantab* +*betul*) and *mager* (*malas* +*gerak*).

### Acronym

The next word formation process found in slang words is Acronym. Acronym is one of the word formation process that is formed by taking the initial letter of words in a phrase or sentence. The acronym found in slang words are:

FYI is the acronym of *For Your Information*. This word is created by taking the initial letter of each word. The meaning of *FYI* is to tell someone

or people that the statement that will be stated is the information for the interlocutors.

The next acronym is CMIIW, it stands for *correct me if I wrong*. The meaning is asking for correction for what the speaker say or write.

Next acronym is *pov*. It is the acronym for *point of view*. It means the speaker or writer try to share and explain their point of view so the audience can clearly see what the speakers means.

Pap is the next acronym used by millennial as slang word. Pap is the acronym for *post a picture*, means posting or sending a picture in social media for other people.

ASAP is also one of the slang words used by millennial. ASAP is the acronym for *as soon as possible*.

AKA is the acronym for *also known as*. It is one of the slang words used by millennial. The meaning of AKA is used to indicate another name that a person or thing has or uses.

BTW is one of the slang words that is often used by millennial. Btw is an acronym for *“by the way”*. The meaning is incidentally and it is used to introduce a topic that is not directly connected with what was being spoken about previously.

BFF is slang words that appears from acronym. The word BFF is taken from the first letter of the words *“Best Friend Forever”*. The word BFF is used to indicate someone's best friends and they will be best friend forever.

Cod is also one of the slang words used by millennial. COD is the acronym from *Cash on Delivery*. This word is usually used in buying and selling process in which the payment system of the goods will be paid when the goods is arrived.

The other acronyms that the writers found are DM (*direct message*), DIY (*do it yourself*), KEPO (*knowing every particular object*), LOL (*laughing out loud*), LMAO (*laughing my ass off*), OOTD (*outfit of the day*), OTW (*on the way*) and OMG (*Oh My God*).

### Loan Words

The next word formation process found in slang words is loan words. Borrowing is one of the most common sources of new words in language. The words formed by borrowing of words from other languages are called loan words. The slang

words that come from loan words are coming from English and Javanese.

*Ambyar* is one of the slang words used by millennial. This loan words is borrowed from Javanese. *Ambyar* is coming from the word *Ambyar*, the meaning is broken or shattered. This word is used to state a broken or a shattered feeling. *Ghosting* is the next slang words used by millennial that coming from English. It is a loan word, and the meaning is left out without any explanation.

The last is *selow*. It is a loan words that comes from English. *Selow* is coming from the English word “slow”. The meaning of the words *selow* is doing something slowly. It can also be used when someone being asked to slow down his anger. Other loan words that is used by millennial are spill, insecure, cringe, crush, relate, and bestie.

### Clipping

The next word formation process of slang words is clipping. Clipping is a process that shortens polysyllabic words by deleting one or more syllables in a word. The slang words used by millennial that belongs to clipping are *halu* and *bund*. *Halu* is the short version of *halusinasi*. The slang word *halu* is formed by deleting the syllable “sinasi”, so the rest of the syllables is *halu*, and it is used as the slang words. The meaning of *halusinasi* is hallucination. Thus, *halu* refers to a person who has day dreaming, thinking too far and does not make any sense. The next clipping is *bund*. This is the short version of the word *bunda*. By deleting the letter a, it becomes a clipping “bund”.

### Reduplication

Reduplication is one of the word formation process that formed slang words. Reduplication is a word formation process which reduplicates all or parts of a word to mark grammatical or semantic contrast. The slang word formed by reduplication is *tipis-tipis*. *Tipis-Tipis* is the slang word that include in reduplication. The meaning is when someone doing something not too long, not too much or just a little.

### Internal Change

The last type of word formation process found in this research is internal change. Internal change is a process that substitutes one non

morphemic segment for another to mark a grammatical or semantic contrast. Sometimes, the form of the internal change is also called as partial suppletion or extreme internal change because the initial phoneme of these verbs remain the same but the rest is entirely replaced by the different syllable. The examples are *santuy* from *santai*, and *gemoy* from *gemes*. In *santuy*, the initial syllables “san” remain unchanged, but the following syllables changed from *tui* to become *tuy*. The meaning of *santuy* is being relaxed. This also happen to *gemoy* that comes from the word *gemes*, the initial syllables remain the same, the following syllables change from *mes* to *moy*, then it forms *gemoy*, in which the meaning is cute.

## CONCLUSION

After conducting analysis, the writers found that the forms of word formation process used in slang word by millennial are blend, acronym, loan words, clipping, and extreme internal change. The most used slang words are in the form loan words, acronym, blend, internal change, clipping, and reduplication. Based on the analysis, the writer found that blend is coming from the combination of all Indonesian word. All of the acronyms found are the acronym form English sentences or phrases. The loan words are borrowing from Javanese and English, but most of the loan words are borrowed

from English. The meaning of slang words can be interpreted from the conceptual meaning of the elements that made up the words itself.

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