

The Challenges of English Language Teaching in Multilingual Classroom

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Abstract

The utilization of informal language, commonly referred to as slang, constitutes a dynamic and ever-changing social phenomenon, reflecting the intricate interplay between language and culture. This research study delves into the specific manifestations of slang nomenclature found in the cinematic work "Django Unchained." To achieve this, the study adopts the classifications outlined by renowned linguists Bloomfield (1933) and Guth (1962). Through meticulous analysis, the research discerns five distinct categories of slang employed within the film: abbreviations (such as "O.B." signifying an individual's initials), truncated forms (for instance, "kinda" in lieu of "kind of"), interjections (like "bravo," used to convey approval), figurative expressions (such as "goddamn," indicating frustration), and nicknames (like "fancy pants," used to mock someone's attire). The prevalent linguistic feature observed in the film is the use of shortened forms, highlighting a penchant for succinct communication within casual environments. Abbreviations are infrequently utilized, implying the movie's adherence to a more formal discourse. Notably, the absence of comical mispronunciations among the characters indicates precise pronunciation. This analytical examination provides valuable insights into the varied linguistic evolutions present within slang, underscoring its malleability and its responsiveness to societal influences.

Keywords: slang formation; movie; slang terms.

Introduction

Slang, a captivating social phenomenon, serves as a dynamic illustration of language's ever-evolving nature. Its roots often trace back to abbreviations or shortened forms, with expressions like "goat (greatest of all time)," "wuatb (wish u all the best)," and "gws (get well soon)" standing as prime examples of this ongoing linguistic evolution. The nuanced study of slang also unveils regional disparities, as highlighted by Wardaugh (2015), emphasizing distinctions between American slang and its counterparts in England or Australia, each locale boasting its unique slang vocabulary.

In the Indonesian context, abbreviated terms such as "baper (bawa perasaan)" and "caper (cari perhatian)" are pervasive, reflecting the creation of slang through the amalgamation of multiple words. Interestingly, certain English slang expressions like "otw (on the way)" and "btw (by the way)" have seamlessly integrated into both oral and written Indonesian communication due to their simplicity, marking an intriguing cross-cultural linguistic exchange.

The widespread adoption of English slang is significantly facilitated by contemporary communication tools and social networks, underscoring the sense of camaraderie prevalent among the present generation. Notably, slang expressions have transcended everyday conversation, finding their way into song lyrics. Examples include titles like "Whaddup A" by Agnes Monica and phrases like "Dontcha" in The Pussycat Dolls' lyrics. This incorporation enhances the songs' allure, adding a layer of linguistic richness that resonates with the audience on a cultural and linguistic level.

The scholarly examination of slang has yielded valuable insights, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of its various forms and applications. Benany's (2020) research delineated three distinct types of slang prevalent within WhatsApp groups, shedding light on its digital dynamics. Additionally, Rezeki and Sagala's (2019) study delved into the usage patterns of 33 Facebook and 31 Instagram slang words among millennials, offering crucial sociolinguistic perspectives.

Suhardianto's (2016) meticulous work outlined seven methods of slang construction, including processes such as abbreviation and sound change, providing a systematic analysis of its linguistic evolution. Desvicatary and Putra's (2020) examination identified compounding as the dominant characteristic in the film "Fast and Furious 7," underscoring its prevalence in popular culture. Similarly, Trimastuti's (2015) exploration of the term 'Alay' in Indonesian teen conversations offered valuable cultural insights.

Furthermore, Kartina and Pangestu (2019) have contributed to the understanding of emotional expression by analyzing 66 slang terms employed by main characters, enriching our comprehension of slang's nuanced communication. Oktavia's (2017) research illuminated the prevalence of slang in Far East Movement songs, attributing it to the inherent stylistic elements of the hip-hop genre.

Collectively, these studies underscore the multifaceted and pervasive nature of slang, emphasizing its intricate role in contemporary language usage and societal discourse. Slang, primarily utilized by young individuals and specific interest groups, constitutes a unique and informal linguistic expression that sharply contrasts with formal speech, a distinction meticulously outlined by Yule (2010). Within every society, this lively linguistic mosaic is characterized by a myriad of slang terminologies, intricately influenced by regional peculiarities, ethnic diversity, nationality, social standing, generational dynamics, gender roles, and levels of education. These intricate elements converge to shape a distinct slang lexicon within particular communities, a phenomenon extensively explored by linguistic scholars like Wardaugh (2015). This dynamic fusion of socio-cultural factors and linguistic transformation plays a pivotal role in shaping the diverse landscape of slang usage, rendering it an essential facet of contemporary language.

Even though slang holds immense cultural value and depth, it tends to be restricted to particular social groups and informal settings due to its perceived informality and lack of politeness, as pointed out by Suhardianto and Ambalegin (2016). However, this limitation doesn't diminish the significance of slang. Its unconventional linguistic forms have been acknowledged in specialized dictionaries, highlighting their distinct and non-standard linguistic nature. This acknowledgment emphasizes the intricate nature of slang as a linguistic phenomenon, warranting scholarly investigation and study.

Scholars such as Bloomfield (1933) and Guth (1962) have endeavored to classify the diverse realm of slang into various typologies, unveiling its intricate complexities. One prevalent form, abbreviation, involves condensing phrases into initials, a practice often punctuated for clarity, as highlighted by linguists O'Grady and Archibald (2016).

Moreover, the domain of Funny Mispronunciation challenges conventional linguistic norms by altering intonation, infusing humor, skepticism, or even rudeness into everyday conversations. This departure from linguistic conventions vividly demonstrates the dynamic essence of slang, showcasing its adaptability and capacity for innovation. Another prevalent form of slang involves shortened forms, a linguistic condensation method observed across various languages. This phenomenon entails the selective omission of internal letters and phonemes, signifying a universal trait in the evolution of language.

Interjections, lacking syntactic structure, function as raw emotional outbursts, capturing a wide array of sentiments from sheer delight to subtle culinary appreciation. These unfiltered expressions embody the emotional essence of language, unrestricted by grammatical constraints, underscoring the immediate impact of slang in conveying human emotions and experiences. Slang, with its varied forms and underlying social dynamics, constitutes a multifaceted mosaic of linguistic creativity, influenced by social, cultural, and individual elements. It mirrors the intricate nature of human interaction, culture, and inventiveness. Linguists persist in delving into the nuances of slang, unveiling the profound ways in which language mirrors and shapes the human journey.

Furthermore, according to Guth (1961-95), there are two additional forms of slang:
Figurative Expressions:

1. Figurative expressions entail enlarging the meaning of a word or a group of words to create a particular effect by drawing associations between two distinct concepts.
2. Nicknames (Someone's Call): Nicknames are given names that relate to someone's distinctive qualities or characteristics, serving as a specific identifier.

Methods

The research methodology employed in this study comprised a comprehensive and multistage approach to unravel the intricacies of slang usage, with a primary focus on the movie "Django Unchained." The detailed breakdown of each stage is elucidated below:

1. Preparation:

The inaugural phase of this research endeavor entailed a rigorous and systematic preparation process. The researcher initiated this stage by immersing themselves in an in-depth scrutiny of the script of "Django Unchained," a cinematic masterpiece known for its intricate storytelling. This involved not only a surface-level perusal but a meticulous examination aimed at uncovering subtle nuances in language usage, specifically slang. In addition to script analysis, the researcher delved into existing research studies on slang, synthesizing a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter. To ensure a well-rounded foundation, extensive internet searches were conducted, amalgamating a wealth of information that set the stage for the subsequent phases of the study.

2. Data Collection:

The second stage, marked by precision and thoroughness, revolved around the systematic collection of slang data. The researcher adopted a methodical approach, meticulously combing through the dialogue of "Django Unchained" to identify and record slang terms on a word-by-word basis. This granular process aimed at capturing the subtleties inherent in language, providing a comprehensive dataset for subsequent analysis. Each identified slang term or phrase was documented with meticulous attention to detail, ensuring a rich repository of linguistic expressions derived directly from the cinematic narrative.

3. Data Analysis:

The analytical phase of the research constituted a profound exploration into the forms and meanings encapsulated within the identified slang words and phrases. Leveraging a diverse set of online resources, including but not limited to UrbanDictionary.com, CollinsDictionary.com, and Dictionary.cambridge.org, the researcher delved into the multifaceted dimensions of contemporary slang. This approach facilitated a nuanced understanding of the contextual variations and evolving nature of the identified terms.

In tandem with online resources, the research harnessed the theoretical frameworks proposed by eminent scholars such as Bloomfield (1933) and Guth (1962). These frameworks, steeped in linguistic theory, provided a structured lens through which the researcher could gain deeper insights into the underlying mechanisms governing the usage and evolution of slang. By intertwining cinematic exploration with theoretical perspectives, the research aimed not only to uncover linguistic nuances but also to contextualize these findings within broader scholarly discourse.

In summation, the research methodology adopted in this study was characterized by its meticulous and layered approach. From comprehensive preparation and systematic data collection to in-depth analysis supported by theoretical frameworks, each phase contributed to a holistic exploration of slang usage within the culturally significant cinematic landscape of "Django Unchained."

Result and Discussion

This research meticulously examined and classified the slang expressions showcased in the film "Django Unchained" (2012). The study identified five distinct categories of slang, drawing upon the classifications outlined by Bloomfield (1933) and Guth (1962), to contextualize the use of slang in the film "Django Unchained."

Table 1. Forms of Slang

Forms of Slang in Django Unchained			
No	Forms of slang	Data	Quantity
1	Shortened Forms	I'd, I'm, It's, I've, kinda, you're, you'd, talkin', wit, ya, didn't, ain't, 'em, wanna, I'll, y'all, doin', gonna	18
2	Interjections	Fuck, god fucking dammit, shit, whoa, sonofabitch	5
3	Figurative Expressions	Goddamn	1
4	Nicknames	Moonlight, fancy pants, son of a bitch, boy, snowball, little trouble maker	6

Shortened Forms

Data 1

Slang : "And since your late brother won't be using it anymore, I'd like to purchase his nag."

The slang term "I'd," as mentioned earlier, falls under the category of shortened forms. Specifically, "I'd" is a condensed version of the phrase "I would." This slang term is employed to indicate future events from a past perspective.

Data 2

Slang : "I'm from The Carrucan Plantation."

The above slang word "I'm" is regarded as a shorter form. The slang term "I'm" is a contraction of the phrase "I would". The slang term "I'm" refers to a remark.

Data 3

Slang : "It's like a reward."

The above slang word "It's" is regarded as a shorter form. The slang term "It's" is a contraction of the word "It is." The slang term "It's" refers to a statement.

Data 4

Slang : "So this is the One-Eyed Charly I've heard so much about."

The above slang word "I've" is regarded as a shorter form. The slang term "I've" is a contraction of the word "I have." The slang term "I've" is applied to verbs to produce adjectives that demonstrate the ability to undertake the activity represented by the verb.

Data 5

Slang : "What kinda doctor?"

The slang term "kinda" above is one of many shorter variants. The slang term "kinda" is a contraction of the phrase "kind of". The slang term "kinda" is used with verbs to produce adjectives that reflect variations on a theme.

Data 6

Slang : "You don't know if you're positive?"

The above slang word "you're" is categorized as a shorter form. The slang term "you're" is a contraction of the word "you are." The slang term "you're" is used to shorten "you are" and is frequently followed by the present participle.

Data 7

Slang : "But if

I made you an offer so ridiculous you'd be forced to consider it who knows what could happen?"

The above slang term "you'd" is regarded as a shorter form. The slang term "you'd" is a contraction of the word "you would." The slang term "you'd" refers to future time from the perspective of the past.

Data 8

Slang : "Hey, stop talkin' to him like that!"

The above slang term "talkin'" is regarded as a shorter form. The slang term "talkin'" is a contraction of the word "talking." The slang term "talkin'" refers to the act of expressing or exchanging ideas using spoken words or sign language.

Data 9

Slang : “Now off wit ya!”

The above slang term "wit" is regarded as a shorter form. The slang term "wit" is a contraction of the word "with." The slang term "with" is used to indicate that persons or things are in the same area or doing the same activity.

Data 10

Slang : “Now off wit ya!”

The above slang word "ya" is categorized as a shorter form. The slang term "ya" is a contraction of the word "you." The slang term "ya" refers to any person in general.

Data 11

Slang : “Did’t you hear him tell ya, I ain’t no slave.”

Shortened variants of the slang word "didn't" are listed above. The slang term "didn't" is a contraction of the phrase "did not". The slang term "didn't" is used to make a negative statement or ask an inquiry about something that was not done in the past.

Data 12

Slang : “Did’t you hear him tell ya, I ain’t no slave.”

Shortened variants of the slang word "ain't" are listed above. The slang term "ain't" is a contraction of the phrase "am not, are not, is not, have not, has not." It is more commonly heard in the less educated's everyday speech. It is used to draw attention and emphasize points in both speech and writing.

Data 13

Slang : “Just leave 'em out here, they ain't goin' nowhere.”

The above slang term "'em" is regarded as a shortened form. The slang term "'em" is a contraction of the word "them." When the object of a verb or preposition is "them," the slang word "them" is used.

Data 14

Slang : “If you wanna know who I am, or the name of my horse, you ask me.”

The above slang term "wanna" is regarded as a shorter form. The slang term "wanna" is a contraction of the word "want to." The slang term "wanna" is used to indicate that persons have a desire to possess or do (something); wish for.

Data 15

Slang : “So I'll talk slowly.”

The above slang term "I'll" is regarded as a shorter form. The slang term "I'll" is a shortened form of the word "I will." The slang term "I'll" is used to expressing the future tense.

Data 16

Slang : “I’m doin' business with both of y'all.”

The slang word “y’all” above is classified as shortened forms. The slang “y’all” is the shortened form of the word “you” and “all”. The slang word “y’all” used usually in addressing two or more persons.

Data 17

Slang : “I’m doin' business with both of y'all.”

The slang word “doin'” above is classified as shortened forms. The slang word “doin'” is the shortened form of the word “doing”. The slang word “doin’” is used for the act of performing or executing for what is happening at that time.

Data 18

Slang : “He's gonna stay in the Big House?”

The slang word “gonna” above is classified as shortened forms. The slang word “gonna” is the shortened form of the word “gonna”. The slang word “gonna” is included in category of verbs whose meaning is to go to. Used for the act of performing or executing for what is happening at that time.

Interjections

Data 19

Slang : “Fuck!”

The above slang term "fuck" is classified as an interjection. The term "fuck" literally means an act or instance of having sex.. It is a widespread outburst of irritation. The slang term "fuck" refers to an interjection used to show wrath, disdain, or disgust.

Data 20

Slang : “God fucking dammit!”

The phrase "god fucking dammit" above is one of the forms of an interjection. This refers to a man with a bad attitude. The slang term "god fucking dammit" is used to indicate rage, madness, and also pissed.

Data 21

Slang : "Sonofabitch!"

The phrase "sonofabitch" above is an interjection. This word refers to a man with a nasty attitude and a humorous appearance. The slang term "sonofabitch" is used to indicate rage, scorn, or disgust.

Data 22

Slang : "Shit!"

The above slang term "shit" is classified as an interjection. The term "shit" literally means "excreta from the body via the anus." It is a widespread outburst of irritation. The slang term "shit" refers to an interjection used to show wrath, disdain, or disgust.

Data 23

Slang : "Whoa!"

The slang phrase "whoa" is an interjection. "Whoa" is a phrase used to indicate surprise, interest, or anxiety, as well as to command attention.

Figurative Expressions

Data 24

Slang : "Who made this goddamn shit?"

The slang term "goddamn" used above is a metaphorical statement. The phrase "goddamn" is a figurative expression made up of two words: "god" and "damn." The slang term "goddamn" denotes "annoyance" or "annoying." It is a reaction to distressing, alarming, awe-inspiring, or frightening communication or acts.

Nicknames

Data 25

Slang : "That means you too, Moonlight."

The phrase "Moonlight" above is a nickname. This nickname refers to a white boy who is good handsome and has pale complexion. It can also be sarcastic. In this situation, the slang term "Moonlight" is used to insult a male.

Data 26

Slang : "Last chance, fancy pants."

The above phrase "fancy pants" is a nickname. This moniker refers to a man in nice pants, or a man in decent pants. The slang term "fancy pants" is used to criticize a guy who is wearing pants in the instance.

Data 27

Slang : "You gaddamn son of a bitch, you killed Ace!"

The phrase "son of a bitch" above is a nickname. This moniker refers to a man with a nasty attitude and a humorous appearance. The slang term "son of a bitch" is used to indicate rage, scorn, or disgust.

Data 28

Slang : "I like the way you die, boy."

The term "boy" in the preceding sentence is a nickname. This moniker refers to a man close buddy. The slang term "boy" refers to a friend or colleague.

Data 29

Slang : "Hey Snowball."

The word "Snowball" used above is a nickname. This nickname refers to a good buddy who is male and has white hair. The slang term "Snowball" refers to a friend or associate.

Data 30

Slang : "Hey Little Trouble Maker."

The word "little trouble maker" used above is a nickname. This nickname refers to a girl who is a female. The slang term "little trouble maker" refers to a friend or a partner.

In the aforementioned data analysis, this study revealed several significant findings. Out of the six identified forms of slang words in the movie "Django Unchained," five were observed. These classifications were made in accordance with the theoretical frameworks proposed by Bloomfield (1933) and Guth (1962). The usage of slang words exhibits distinct characteristics based on how individuals employ them in spoken language.

The research indicated that the predominant form of slang in the movie is the shortened form, created by omitting internal letters and sounds, as explained by Bloomfield (1933). For instance, the term "I'd" originates from "I would." This form of slang is commonly utilized in spoken language to enhance efficiency, as listeners readily comprehend the intended meaning. Such slang enables individuals to convey ideas succinctly, aligning with the natural tendency of spoken language to be more concise than written forms. Particularly in informal settings like the movie depicted, people opt for brevity in their speech.

The least prominent form of slang words identified in the movie is abbreviation, characterized by taking the initial letters of certain words (Bloomfield, 1933). Only one instance of abbreviation was observed in the film's dialogue. The storyline, revolving around a graduate doctor's journey to become a bounty hunter with the help of a slave he intends to liberate, does not necessitate extensive use of abbreviated terms. The utilization of "O.B." in the movie represents the initials of a character closely associated with another.

Interestingly, there are no occurrences of funny mispronunciation within the film. According to Bloomfield (1933), funny mispronunciation involves altering the tone of a word in an unusual manner. This particular form of slang is absent in the movie, not due to the depiction of a formal and elegant lifestyle, but rather because no instances were found in the dialogue. The characters in the film naturally articulate all the slang words without any pronunciation errors.

Conclusion

In the cinematic masterpiece "Django Unchained," the narrative is intricately woven with a rich and diverse array of slang words, contributing to the film's immersive storytelling. The linguistic landscape of the movie resonates with the categories outlined by esteemed scholars such as Bloomfield (1933) and Guth (1962), whose frameworks provide a lens through which to understand the nuanced forms of slang employed. This study undertook a meticulous examination, peeling back the layers of dialogue to categorize the identified slang based on its inherent structures. The findings of this analysis offer a compelling glimpse into the intricate fabric of language within the film, showcasing how slang serves as a vibrant and integral element that enhances the authenticity and cultural richness of the storytelling.

The exploration of slang in "Django Unchained" reveals a tapestry of linguistic diversity that adds depth to the characters' interactions and the overall ambiance of the film. Categorizing the slang terms based on their forms provides a systematic framework for understanding the nuances inherent in colloquial language. Whether through abbreviations, shortened forms, interjections, figurative expressions, or nicknames, each category contributes uniquely to the cinematic experience. This comprehensive categorization not only highlights the multifaceted nature of slang usage in the movie but also underscores the filmmakers' deliberate efforts to capture the nuances of language within the historical and cultural context presented in "Django Unchained."

In essence, the study's examination of slang in "Django Unchained" serves as a testament to the intricate role of language in shaping the cinematic narrative. The categorization based on Bloomfield's and Guth's frameworks offers a structured approach to understanding the dynamic and multifaceted nature of slang within the film. As a result, the audience is immersed in a linguistic tapestry that not only reflects the historical setting but also adds layers of authenticity and cultural richness to the characters and their interactions, ultimately enhancing the overall impact of the cinematic experience.

a) Abbreviation:

Surprisingly, within the realm of abbreviation, the researcher unearthed none in the context of "Django Unchained." This absence, while intriguing, reflects the dynamic nature of slang usage within the film, where other forms take precedence in conveying colloquial nuances.

b) Shortened Forms:

The study identified a vibrant spectrum of eighteen slang words falling under the category of shortened forms. These linguistic abbreviations, including "I'd," "I'm," "It's," "I've," and others like "kinda," "you're," and "gonna," exemplify the film's commitment to portraying authentic and colloquial dialogues. The prevalence of such shortened forms underscores the cinematic endeavor to capture the rhythm and cadence of everyday speech.

c) Interjections:

The cinematic landscape of "Django Unchained" resonates with the vibrant energy of interjections, encapsulated by five distinct slang words. From the emphatic "fuck" to the exasperated "god fucking dammit," and the expressive "whoa" to the coarse "sonofabitch," these interjections serve as punctuations that amplify the emotional intensity within the narrative.

d) Figurative Expressions:

Within the realm of figurative expressions, the researcher identified a solitary slang word - "goddamn." This figurative expression, laden with intensity, serves as a testament to the film's capacity to infuse raw emotion and emphasis into the characters' dialogue, contributing to the overall authenticity of the linguistic landscape.

e) Nicknames:

The film's characters are adorned with an assortment of nicknames, a facet that adds a layer of familiarity and colloquialism to the narrative. The six identified slang words in this category, including "Moonlight," "fancy pants," "son of a bitch," and others, provide insight into the intricate relationships and dynamics among the characters, as well as the cultural milieu depicted in "Django Unchained."

In summary, the exploration of slang within the cinematic masterpiece "Django Unchained" reveals a tapestry of linguistic diversity that enriches the film's immersive storytelling. The multifaceted nature of the slang employed serves as a powerful tool for authentic character portrayal, breathing life into the dialogue and contributing to the overall cultural ambiance of the narrative. Through a meticulous categorization based on forms, ranging from the absence of abbreviations to the prevalence of shortened forms, interjections, figurative expressions, and nicknames, the study unveils the nuanced layers of colloquial language intricately woven into the fabric of the movie.

This comprehensive categorization not only sheds light on the varied linguistic expressions but also underscores the film's commitment to capturing the richness of everyday speech. The prevalence of shortened forms, such as "kinda" and "gonna," reflects the filmmakers' dedication to realism, mirroring the nuances of informal communication. Likewise, the interjections and figurative expressions, from emphatic expletives to intense phrases like "goddamn," contribute to the emotional depth of the characters and the overall cinematic experience.

The identification of nicknames within the film adds yet another dimension to the exploration of slang, revealing insights into the interpersonal dynamics among characters. Expressions like "fancy pants" and "son of a bitch" not only serve as colloquial embellishments but also contribute to character development, offering glimpses into the relationships and cultural backdrop depicted in "Django Unchained." In essence, the nuanced nature of slang usage uncovered in this study not only reinforces the authenticity of the film's dialogue but also provides a rich and detailed examination of the intricate language choices that contribute to the cinematic masterpiece's enduring impact.

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