WORD FORMATIONS OF JARGON USED IN THE US MILITARY IN THE EXPENDABLES 3 MOVIE

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the form, function and the word formation of US military jargon in "The Expendables 3" movie. Data collection was administered through movie observation and orthographic transcription. Data analysis was administered through identification, data reduction, classification and description. The results reveal 4 forms of jargon based on the word class including jargon in word forms, phrases forms, abbreviation and acronym with word forms jargon as the highest frequency of use. The second frequency of usage is jargon in phrase form which occurs in 12 phrases. Abbreviation occurs only in 2 forms and acronym occurs in 1 usage. US military jargon in the movie has 3 functions: to show the identity of the group, to strengthen the intimacy among the users in group and to show that someone is mastering the skill in military. The last finding of word formation presents 9 jargon formations and two of them indicate two combinations of two word formations and most of jargons are formed by borrowing.

Keywords: *Sociolinguistics, United States Military, jargon, word formation, The Expendables 3*

Introduction

According to Kridalaksana in Chaer and Agustina (2004:3), sociolinguistics is the science that studies of characteristic and function of the language variation, also the relationship between language with the characteristic and function in the language society. In society's communication, there are many language variations like register, slang, jargon, dialect and sociolect. The language variations are classified based on the social variety and the function of the activity in the social society.

Jargon is one of the language variations in sociolinguistics. Soeparno (2002:73) defines that jargon is the form of language variation that the use of it is limited in certain social group. Moreover, Van Herk (2012:116) explains that a register associated with a particular occupation or activity often develops its own special vocabulary items, known as jargon. Jargon can involve special items, as when linguistics refers to fricative or mediopassives, or specialized meanings for existing words, as when we give particular linguistic meanings to the words

register or style. Jargon is the special language used in the certain field in the society. It functions to strengthen the communication and relationship among members in the group (Crystal, 2003:174). It also aims to show the identity of the group to others. It also indicates that people use jargon just because it makes them sound like experts (Gerber, 2010:23).

There are many words that are difficult to be understood by the society in general and the outside of the group. The group has jargon or the special vocabulary but not secret to the other, for example jargon in sport, computer, military, banking, and medical. Jargon in military is different from other jargon used in different groups. It is different from jargon used in football or health. For example, when people say *amo*, other people will not understand because they are not from military. *Amo* means ammunition used in the war. Only military knows the meaning and the function of the word. People who do not belong to the group or the profession may difficult to understand the jargon.

Military language is not a free language to use but it is used among the members of military. NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) defines standards for military communication and it is widely accepted and used across the world (Hawryluk, 2010). However, nowadays, military language is not an undercover language to understand. By the existence of action movies, people all over the world may enjoy and listen to military language used by military members all over the worlds including the US military.

Learning about military jargon, it is also interesting to discuss military jargon word formation to deconstruct how the jargons are formed. Morphology is the study of word formation, including the ways new words are coined in the languages of the world, and the way forms of words are varied depending on how they are used in sentences (Lieber, 2009:2).

The research analyzed jargon as part of military language used by the US military in movie *The Expendables 3*. It concerned to the form, function and word formation of jargon used in the movie. In doing the research, some previous researches are used as the reference i.e. a research by Hawryluk (2010) which discuss Russian in the Red/Soviet Army military language and a research by Widiastuti (2008) which also discussed the forms and function of military jargon used in *Windtalkers* movie.

Therefore, it is important for the writer to do a research related to US military jargon entitles "Word Formations of Jargon Used in the US Military in *the Expendables 3* Movie". It is important to describe the word formation of US military jargon and the function of jargon used in the movie from sociolinguistic perspective.

Research Method

The study was a qualitative descriptive for it contains non-numerical data which are explained in sentences. There were two kinds of data, namely, primary data and secondary data. The primary data derived from *The Expendables 3* movie (movie dialog and written transcription). The secondary data were some related references from articles, books, and dictionary.

In collecting the data, there are some steps conducted i.e. movie observing and transcription. Then, the data were analyzed through identification, data reduction, classification, description and conclusion.

Finding
There are some findings in this research, including the forms of jargons based on the group of words include Noun and Verbs, phrases include Noun phrases and Verb phrase, abbreviation and acronym, (2) the word formation includes borrowing, derivation, inflection, abbreviation, acronym, clipping, compounding, blending and inflectional borrowing, and (3) the functions relate to .identity and solidarity

Table 1. The Frequency of Jargon Forms

Jargon Forms	Frequency
Words	14
Phrases	12
Abbreviation	2
Acronym	1

Some processes of jargon formation found in *The Expendables 3* as listed in the following table:

Table 2. Processes of Jargon Formation in *The Expendables 3*

No	Word Formation	Frequency
1	Borrowing	8
2	Blending	1
3	Clipping	2
4	Compounding	2
5	Affixation	3
6	Abbreviation	2
7	Acronym	1
8	Inflectional-borrowing	1
Total		20

The table below presents some examples of jargons and the word formation used in the US Military in *The Expendables 3.*

Table 3. Word formations and Jargon Examples used in the US military
in *The Expendables 3*

Word forma-tion	Class	Jargon Samples	Meaning
Borrowing	Noun	*Ambush*, origin from Old-french *embusche*	
Blending	Noun	*Autopilot*, from *automatic + pilot*	
Clipping	Noun	- *Chopper*, from *helicopter* - A black *ops*, from *operations*	
Abbreviation	Noun	NSA from National Security Agency	an intelligence orga-nization of the Unit-ed States government, responsible for global monitoring, collection, and processing of in-formation and data for foreign intelligence and counterintelligence pur-poses
Derivational affix	Noun	*Sniper,* from *snipe + er*	A skilled military shooter detailed to spot and pick off enemy sol-diers from a concealed place
Inflexional-bor-rowing	Noun	*Marines,* from *marine + s* and origin from	also known as a **Marine Corps** and **naval in-fantry**, are an infantry force that specializes in the support of naval and army operations on land and at sea, as well as the execution of their own operations
Compounding	Noun	*Safehouse*, from *safe + house*	a place used secretly by undercover agents, ter-rorists, etc, as a meeting place or refuge

Acronym	Noun	DARPA from Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency	an agency of the U.S. Department of Defense responsible for the development of emerging technologies for use by the military

Jargon is the language variety used by certain social group or profession and cannot be understood by the other group (Chaer and Agustina in Aslinda, 2007). Jargon may involve special items, as when linguistics refer to fricative or mediopassives, or specialized meanings for existing words, as when we give particular linguistic meanings to the words register or style (Van Herk, 2012). Jargon makes communication more effective for in-group members. In using jargon, the users create the barriers to participation. They try to use the language that other groups do not know. It shows their existence as a group.

One of speech communities that exist is military. Military members are group of people work in military occupation where they are to protect the country from enemies outside the country. In this study, the military jargon was focused on jargon used by US military members. The data source was from one of military famous movie *The Expendables 3*.

Based on the classification of the word classes, there are jargon in word form, phrase form, abbreviation and acronym. Although abbreviation and acronym are not word class but it includes in the classification of word type based on the morphological process.

The finding shows that there are 14 words and 10 phrases of jargon used in *The Expendables 3* movie and most of them are in the form of countable nouns and noun phrases. The speakers tend to speak the different words to refer the things (war equipments), activity (tactic and war) and people/group of people. The jargon words found in the movie are nouns. There are no other classes of identified jargon words communicated by the speakers in the movie, i.e. *chopper, brass, drummer*, etc. Like words, the phrase structure of jargons is also identified by nouns as the head, i.e. *agency spook, X-25 assault rifle, close quarter combat*, etc.

The second analysis reveals the function of jargon in US military. Like jargon in general, jargon used in US military has function to show the identity of the group, strengthen the intimacy among the users in group and show that someone is mastering the skill in military. The identity of the group is the speakers as US military members and belongs to the group. If the speakers do not know the jargon, those people do not belong to US military.

Jargon used in *The Expendables 3* was found in form of word and phrase. Therefore, in analyzing the word formation, it has to be started from analyzing the word or main words in a phrase. It was found that there are nine kinds of process in which the words are formed including borrowing, blending, clipping, compounding, affixation, abbreviation, acronym, and inflectional-borrowing. Some of jargons required two ways of formation such as inflectional-borrowing.

The example of jargon found in this movie is marines. The word *marines* is borrowed from latin *mare* (sea), *marinus*, Old French *marin*, *marine* to Middle English *marine* means *seashore*. After the process of borrowing, it is formed into plural noun from *marine* added with suffix *–s*. Therefore, the word marines are formed from two processes.

Moreover, as the origin of English, most jargons were formed from borrowing since English is language with most loan words (McCarthy, 2002). They were most borrowed from French therefore come from Latin Indirectly. For examples, o*peration* derived from Latin *operatio.*

There is also a unique form of abbreviation found in this case, such as *C-4*. Because the initial words are similar and appear for four times, therefore it was written with the number of the initial words C. It is not effective if the military members mention the similar four letters, therefore abbreviation by mentioning the letter and the number of letters considered to be an effective way. Another case of abbreviation is NSA. NSA is formed by three initial different letters therefore it is impossible to contract by mentioning the letters plus the number of letters.

Some jargons processed from acronym happen because the terms consist of more than three words. In order it is easier to remember and to say, acronym is a good way in forming the jargon. For example, DARPA consists of five words including *Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency*. It is exhausting if the military members have to say all of the words without contracting them.

Conclusion

The study aimed to describe the form of US military jargon, the meaning of US military jargon and the function of US military jargon. Based on the data analysis, there are 4 forms of jargon based on the word class. They are jargon in word forms, phrases forms, abbreviation and acronym. Jargon with the highest frequency of use is jargon in word forms for 14 words. The second frequency of usage is jargon in phrase form for 12 phrases. The abbreviation used is only 2 forms. The least is acronym with 1 usage.

The second finding shows there are 3 functions of US military jargon found in movie *The Expendables 3*, namely, to show the identity of the group, strengthen the intimacy among the users in group and show that someone is mastering the skill in military.

The last finding of word formation reveals 9 jargon formations and two of them are two combinations of two word formations with the highest frequency of jargons that are formed from borrowing.

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