



# AN ANALYSIS OF SLANG WORD IN SONG LYRICS BY TRAVIS SCOTT ON ASTROWORLD ALBUM

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## ABSTRACT

*This study entitled An Analysis of Slang Word in Song Lyrics by Travis Scott on Astroworld Album is intended to find out the types of slang word that used in Song Lyrics by Travis Scott. The analysis concerns with the Slang words that occur in Song Lyrics on Astroworld Album. This study used qualitative technique and Descriptive study in textual analysis to elaborate the various types that occur in song lyrics on Astroworld Album. Theory used in this analysis is Theory by Yule (1986) which to find out the kinds or type of slang word that occurs in the song lyric by Travis Scott on Astroworld album. The study concludes that the clipping slang words are mostly used and the least type of slang word used in the Astroworld album is derivation, borrowing and back formation in the song lyrics on Astroworld Album.*

## INTRODUCTION

Sociolinguistics is a subfield of macro linguistics that studied concerning the connection between language and social behavior. As claimed by Wardhaugh (1986) concerned with investigating the relationship between language and society with the goal of an improved understanding of the structure of a language and the way languages operate in communication and sociolinguistic is the study that involved with the relationship between language and also the context during which



it is used (Holmes, 2001). In brief, sociolinguistics is the use of language in society (Lestari, 2019). There are many things that we can learn regarding sociolinguistics and there is one among us known as slang word.

Slang is a casual English word that is used in the informal situation. Currently, slang words are extremely common. Slang words are mostly employed by younger speakers. Younger speakers influence the creation of slang. They develop new vocabulary in their communication, in order that their community will only understand them. A big amount of younger speakers are fascinated with using slang. Users of slang will build speech more casual and playful, and slang words are not always acceptable and applicable for formal things because generally slang may refer to sex, violence, crime and drugs. People will be versatile to be adapted to society by using slang. Particularly for college students who learn or get in touch with English. They will learn American Slang from a movie or song.

Currently, Slang words are not only employed in the community. However, it is additionally enlarged into media entertainment such as: social media, movie, song lyrics, etc. Song is a combination of music and lyrics. Thus, song will play a paramount role to develop our vocabulary. Listening to songs is good for our pronunciation, the more we listen, the better we get at speaking ourselves (Lestari, 2016). There are tons of slang words that contain in the song lyrics. Hip-hop or rap songs are well known as a genre of music that uses many words. It is the kind of music that almost all the lyrics need to be spoken in a rhythmic way. Typically the lyrics of rap songs are slightly harsh, rude, frankly and impudent. Therefore, we are able to find many slang words in hip-hop or rap songs instead of pop, jazz, country and the other genres. Jacques Berman Webster II is an American rapper, singer, composer and producer. Professionally called Travis Scott. His third and most recent album *Astroworld* created him solidify his place as a top international artist along with his 1st Billboard Hot 100 number-one single *Sicko Mode*, that he performed at the 2019 Super Bowl halftime show.

Based on the phenomenon above, one among the famous rappers in the world, Travis Scott on his album *Astroworld* is absolutely interesting to analyze because there are many slang words that contain in that lyric. Therefore, we are able to use that hip-hop or rap song lyrics to analyze the slang words. The intention of the author is to make the reader more understand concerning sociolinguistics and hope the reader will find out the type of slang of the slang words that they noticed in the hip-hop song and recognize the prohibition or when the right situation to sing or hear the song that contains slang words.

The significance of this study is to raise the development of vocabulary and provide the knowledge about linguistics especially in



sociolinguistics and also this research can be used as a reference for the people who interested in analysis about sociolinguistics. The method that being used in this study is descriptive qualitative method because the data are going to be represented descriptively and also the data is analyzed based on the theory by Yule(1986) The technique that being used in this study is observation technique. The first step is downloading and listening the song, and then note taking for understand more about the lyrics and Selecting the important word that contain of slang word by taking a note. Last, Identifying the type of the Slang Word based on the theory by Yule(1986).

Some previous studies on sociolinguistics particularly in slang word are conducted. the first study is a thesis and written by Wahyuningsih (2019) entitled "An Analysis of Slang Words in Song Lyric by Bruno Mars on 24K Magic Album" The study has 3 problem of study, there are variety of slang word, the process of creating the slang word in song lyrics, and the effect of slang word in the song lyrics by Bruno Mars on 24K magic album. It used theory from Chapman (2007:9) for the type of slang word. Theory by Yule (1985) utilized in the type of creating slang word and also used the theory by Eble (1996) to search out out the effect of slang. The study used qualitative descriptive technique to analyzed the data. That data were taken from song lyrics by Bruno Mars on 24K Magic album. The similarities of the previous study and this study is the topic. the topic was about slang word and also used theory by yule (1986). The other similarity is the problem that is find out types of slang word.

The second study is the Journal was written by Hardianto (2019) entitled "Hip-Hop Slang in Bob Marley's Song Lyrics: Its form and Meaning". The study more focused on the form and meaning of hip-hop song utilized in Bob Marley's song. The author used theories by Jenesis and Magazine (2009) to search out out the definition of hip hop slang and he used theory by Leech (2003) to identify and classify of meaning and collected the information through qualitative technique. The differences is the previous study used Bob Marley's song lyrics as source and this study used song lyrics by Travis Scott in Astroworld Album source data sources.

## METHODS

The data source in this research was taken from Travis Scott's *Astroworld* Album rap lyrics. This album is worth to analyzed because currently, the hip-hop or the Rap genre is quite popular. Travis Scott is one of the most famous musicians/rapper, The album *Astroworld* has been really successful so far. *Astroworld* received widespread acclaim and performed well commercially, debuted a top the US Billboard 200 with 537,000 album-equivalent units, of which 270,000 were pure sales. The data



of this research were taken from three song from *Astroworld* Album by Travis Scott. There are Yosemite, Stargazing, and Butterfly Effect. To collect the data, the writer Listening to the *Astroworld* Album Reading the song lyrics on the internet at *genius.com* to get more understanding about the lyrics, and selecting the important word that contain of slang word by taking a note and last Identifying the type of the Slang Word. The writer used descriptive qualitative method to collect and analyze the data There are two steps that conducted in this research. First, identified the lyrics from the song lyrics that refers to the types of slang words used theory by Yule (1986) Second, Analyzed the meaning of slang word used theory by Leech (1981). Formal and informal methods were use in presenting the data.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### RESULT

This sub chapter showed the result of song lyrics of *Astroworld* album by Travis Scott that are containing Slang word. This study analyzed 3 songs from *Astroworld* album by Travis Scott and analyzed the entire song lyrics that contain Slang Words. The Slang that used in the songs can be seen in the table.

**Table 1. Types of Slang Words Used in Astroworld Album by Travis Scott**

N o	Types of Slang Words	Amount of Data	Percentage
1	Coinage	2	10%
2	Borrowing	0	0%
3	Compounding	2	10%
4	Blending	4	20%
5	Clipping	5	25%
6	Back Formation	0	0%
7	Conversion	2	10%
8	Acronym	1	5%
9	Derivation	0	0%
10	Multiply Process	4	20%
Total		20	100%

From the table of finding above, in the *Astroworld* album by Travis Scott, we found 20 data of Slang word. There are 2 of Coinage, 0 data of borrowing, 3 data of compounding, 4 data of blending, 5 data of clipping, 0 data of Back formation, 2 data of conversion and 1 data of acronym and also 0 data of derivation and last is 4 data for multiply process.

## DISCUSSION

### Coinage

**Data 1:** In the Clearport like **Uber** jets

(Yosemite, line: 9)

The word *Uber* can be categorized as a coinage because it is well recognized as a network transport app brand and a slang word. Usually known as a taxi application, however in the slang word "Uber" has quite a different meaning, which means super.

**Data 2:** VVs's on me got my **Gucci** shirt wet.

(Yosemite, line: 10)

The word *Gucci* can be categorized as a coinage because *Gucci* is a Fashion company based in Florence, Italy. Its Product lines include Handbags, shoes, accessories, make up, fragrance, etc. Meanwhile *Gucci* has other meaning in slang word which is Fancy or shinny. Therefore, this word can be categorized as a coinage.

### Borrowing

According to Yule (1986: 54-55) Borrowing is the taking over of words from other languages. In the *Astroworld* album by Travis Scott, there are no slang word that refers to the type of Borrowing.

### Compounding

**Data 3:** On freeway, but no, ain't nothin free (**straight up**)

(*Butterfly Effect*, line: 13)

The word *straight up* can be categorized as a compounding because it is the combination from *straight* and *up*, and produce a single form which is in slang word means truthful. A compound verb is a verb that is made up of multiple words. The compound verb can take on such forms as: prepositional verb, phrasal verb, verb with auxiliaries, etc. The word *straight up* is a phrasal verb because it is formed when you combine a verb with an adverb or a preposition. *Straight up* used for emphasis someone's statement, which is means truthful.

**Data 4:** She hit that **booger sugar** until her nose bleed

(*Stargazing*, line: 43)

The word *booger sugar* called compounding because it is the combination from *booger* and *sugar* which means in slang a cocaine. In the lyrics above *She hit that booger sugar until her nose bleed* means the excessive use of drug can cause can makes your nose bleed. It called sugar because as we know generally cocaine or drugs looks like sugar.

### Blending

**Data 5:** Got a thousand kids outside that's **tryna** come alive

(*Stargazing*, line: 33)

The word *tryna* has the meaning try to. It called blending because it combining the words *try* and *to* and also produce a new single term. But it does not disappear the meaning of this word and it can be used by written like message or a caption in social media. It usually used by the speaker in North America in daily conversation.

**Data 6 :** On tour, we'll **tell'em**, we bought the section

(*Stargazing*, line: 17)

*Tell'em* can be categorized as blending because that have two word *tell* and *them* then combine and have a new word that usually used in informal situation. In the lyrics above *On tour, we'll tell'em, we bought the section* means the singer will tell them about the section. Therefore, the slang word *tell'em* can be categorized as a blending.

**Data 7:** We shut it down, where it **ain't** so

(*Yosemite*, line: 18)

The word *ain't* is one of blending because it combining the word *is* and *not*. It produce a new single term. This word include slang word because there is the word *ain't* in the English dictionary. The word *ain't* usually used by the people from Black American in daily conversation.

**Data 8:** Put a M in my bag, **I'ma** get used to these racks

(*Yosemite*, line: 12)

The word *I'ma* has the meaning *I'm going to*. It is a blending because it combining the word from *I'm* and *going to* and it produce a new single term.

### Clipping

**Data 9 :** **Feelin'** stuck, you know how to keep me up

(*Butterfly Effect*, line: 20)

The word *feelin* can be identified as a clipping because this word is reducing or shortening word from *feeling*. Currently most people used shortening word to communication. Even though, it still do not changing the meaning.

**Data 10:** '**Cause** you know what I need

(*Butterfly effect*, line 37)

The lyric above can be identify as clipping because *cause* is shortening word from *because*.

**Data 11:** We been **movin'** for sometime

(*Butterfly Effect*, line: 42)

The word *movin'* can be categorized as a clipping because this word is reducing or shortening word from *moving*.

**Data 12:** **Flexin'** try to exercise

(*Butterfly Effect*, line: 43)

The word *Flexin'* can be identified as a clipping because this word is reducing or shortening word from *flexing*. Flex means to show off. *Flexing* is a homonym. In the context of discussing assets, it is a synonym for bragging or boasting. However, in this context, related to exercise, flexing is used to describe the action of *pumping* out your muscle.

**Data 13: Rollin', rollin', rollin', got me stargazing**

(*Stargazing*, line: 1)

The word *rollin'* can be identified as a clipping because this word is reducing or shortening word from *rolling*.

**Back Formation**

According to Yule (1986: 56-57) A very specialized type of reducing process is back formation typically, a word of one type (usually a noun) is reduced to form a word of another type (usually a verb). In the *Astroworld* album, by Travis Scott, there are no slang words that refer to the type of Back formation.

**Conversion**

**Data 14: Take a sip, feel just how I be (it's lit!)**

(*Butterfly Effect*, line: 12)

The word *lit* can be identified as a conversion because it is a verb that comes to be used a adjective in slang, it can be two meaning without changing the word form. As we know, generally lit as a verb that means to have brightened something with light or flames however in slang , *lit* can be adjectives that has meaning under the influence of marijuana or high or under the influence of alcohol or drunk and also it can be something that attractive or hot.

**Data 15: Ice on my neck, flawless baguettes**

(*Yosemite*, line: 1)

The word *Ice* can be identified as a conversion because it is have more than one meaning depends on the context. Generally, we know *ice* is the solid form of water, produced by freezing; frozen water as a noun or to cover with ice, to change into ice; freeze as a verb however , in slang word *ice* means flashy jewelry, usually containing many diamonds or diamond-like gemstones as a noun And as a verb , it means to kill or to put *ice* (diamonds or other jewelry) on a person.



## Acronym

**Data 16:** I got **CC's** you ain't seen yet

(*Yosemite*, line: 47)

The word *CC's* can be identified as an acronym because it is a new word that formed from the initial letters of a set of other words, *CC* is the shortening word from *Crack and Cocaine*.

## Derivation

According to Yule (1986: 58) The name of the process is derivation and it is accomplished by means of a large number of small bits of the English language which are not usually given separate listings in dictionaries. In the *Astroworld* album, by Travis Scott, there are no slang words that refer to the type of Derivation.

## Multiply Process

**Data 17:** She keep my dick **jumpin' up**, feel like I'm moby

(*Stargazing*, line: 48)

The word *jumpin' up* can be categorized as a multiply process because there are more than one process at work in the creation of a particular word.

In word *jumpin' up* there is two type of slang that contain in the word itself. *jumpin* can be identified as a clipping because it is the shortening word from *jumping* and *jumpin' up* also can be identified as a compounding because it is the combination between the word *Jumpin* and *up*.

**Data 18:** She was **talkin' 'bout** forever

(*Stargazing*, line: 45)

The word *talkin' 'bout* can be identified as a multiply process because there are more than one process at work in the creation of a particular word.

In word *talkin' 'bout* there is two clipping that contain in the word itself.

*talkin* is the clipping which is shortening word from *talking* and *bout* is also the clipping which is shortening word from *about*.



**Data 19: Packin' out** Toyota like I'm in the league

(*Stargazing*, line: 40)

The word *packin' out* can be identified as a multiply process because there are more than one process at work in the creation of a particular word. In word *packin' out* there is two type of slang that contain in the word itself. *packin* can be categorized as a clipping because it is the shortening word from *packing* and *packin' out* also can be categorized as a compounding because it is the combination between the word *packing* and *out*.

**Data 20 : Heatin' up** baby I just heatin' up

(*Butterfly Effect*, line: 18)

The word *heatin' up* can be identified as a multiply process because there are more than one process at work in the creation of a particular word. In word *heatin' up* there is two type of slang that contain in the word itself. *heatin* can be categorized as a clipping because it is the shortening word from *heating* and *heatin' up* also can be categorized as a compounding because it is the combination between the word *heatin* and *up*.

## CONCLUSION

This analysis found 20 types of Slang words based on the theory by Yule(1986) such as 2 of Coinage, 0 data of borrowing, 3 data of compounding, 4 data of blending, 5 data of clipping, 0 data of Back formation, 2 data of conversion, 1 data of acronym, 0 data of derivation and 4 data for multiply process. The most used type is clipping because in slang word, usually the present or past continuous tense, the verb *ing* change into *in* and in these song lyrics, sentence with present or past continuous are often appears. In addition, for the least used type are borrowing, back formation, and derivation. Those type are least used because as we know, Slang word generally created by the younger generation to make their conversation sounds more cool and more informal. Moreover, usually the word like borrowing or back formation are seldom used in daily conversation. The aim of using slang is to make the communication become more casual and informal and sounds modern.

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