

## AN ANALYSIS OF SLANG WORDS USED IN SOCIAL MEDIA

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### Abstract

Human needs a means of communication to fulfill their social needs. To support communication easier, electronic media is used, such as television, radio, telephone, and handphone. Electronic media provide information can be understood more easily and instantly. The development of era has been influence in communication and interaction way. In this case, language which be used also influenced. Nowadays, many of slang word used in communication. Slang is a language variety which are informal which used to communication more easily and instantly in social group. The objectives of research is to inform about slang word (in this case 'alay language') which complicated with standard of Indonesia language. Therefore, the use of alay language is worried because it has many errors in Indonesia language. And, it can damage the standard of Indonesia language. The method used in this research is qualitative method, writer select descriptive techniques to analyze the data. Data obtained came from BlacBerry messenger, twitter, instagram, path, line and facebook. To collect data, writer used the method of observation. The writer found that in Alay 'Alay' is one of slang language that used in talk between teenagers. It can be understood by certain group particularly group who use 'alay' language. 'Alay' language for communication has many errors in Bahasa Indonesia. Alay language in social media can be minimized in order to avoid misunderstanding in delivering message.

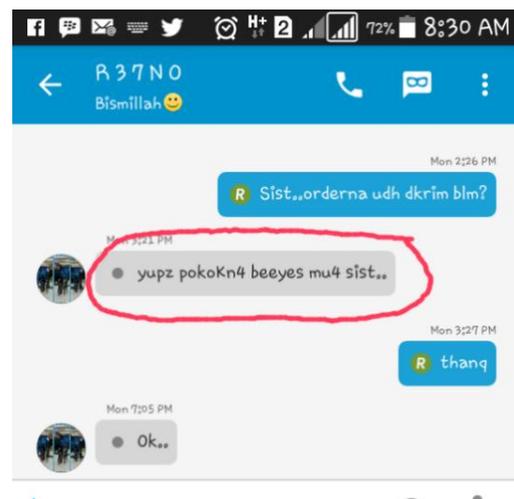
**Key Words:** communication, 'slang' language, alay, social media

### INTRODUCTION

The essence of communication is transmission of meaning from one individual to another. Human needs a means of communication to fulfill social needs. To support communication, nowadays variations of media are developed including electronic media to the printed one. Printed media provide information which can be read by the users, for example: newspaper, letter, magazine, etc. On the other hand, electronic media provide information which can be seen and listened by the users. They are television, radio, radar, telephone, computer, etc. The development of media influences communication and interaction way. It means language that used to communicate has changing. Nowaday, many social groups use special terms to communicate with others, particularly social media. They use special terms that have many errors in Bahasa Indonesia. In this case, this phenomenon is very worrying because damage the original of Bahasa Indonesia.

There are some special terms or words in social media communication, for instance, "ya bentar lg, ne lg OTW". This sentence only understood by certain

groups. This sentence should be 'ya sebentar lagi, ini lagi on the way (perjalanan). It means that someone want to tell others that he/she is on the way. This sentence make easier and faster in communication, but it only understood by certain groups. Other example, 'yupz PokoKn4 beeyess mu4 sist..'



This sentence should be 'ya pokoknya semua sudah beres mba'. The meaning of this sentence is 'Yes, everything is done'.

This phenomenon of Alay language especially in social media communication really complicated and damage the original of Bahasa Indonesia. *Alay* language is kind of slang language. It used by certain groups usually teenagers to show the community which the speaker.

### **Sociolinguistics**

Sociolinguistics is the study of the social uses of language and determine the social evaluation of linguistic variants (Chambers, 2002: 3). Holmes (1992: 16) says that the sociolinguists aim is to move towards a theory which provides a motivated account of the way language is used in a community, and of the choices people make when they use language. Based on the definitions above, it means that sociolinguistics is the study of language variation and that the purpose of such study is to find out what variation tells us about language and speakers' 'knowledge' of language.

On the other hand, sociolinguistics is a study the relationship between language and society. They are interested in explaining why we speak differently in different social context, and they are concerned with identifying the social functions of language and the ways it is used to convey social meaning (Holmes, 2000: 1). There are several possible relationship between language and society. One is that social structure may either influence or determine linguistic structure and/or behavior. Certain evidence may be adduced to support this view: the age-grading phenomenon whereby young children speak differently from older children and, in turn children speak differently from mature adults; studies which show that the varieties of language that speakers use reflect such matters as their regional, social, or ethnic origin and possibly even their gender; and other studies which show that particular ways of speaking, choices of words, and even rules for conversing are in fact highly determined by certain social requirements (Wardhaugh, 2000: 10). It can be conclude that sociolinguistics is a study the relationship between language and society. In this case, some of social groups use

special terms want to show about identity, power, gender, and politness.

### **Slang**

According to Eble in Hudson (1996: 11), "slang is an ever changing set of colloquial words and phrases that speakers use to establish or reinforce social identity or cohesiveness within a group or with a trend or fashion in society at large. The existence of vocabulary of this sort within a language is possibly as old as language it self, for slang seems to be part of any language used in ordinary interaction by a community large enough and diverse enough to have identifiable subgroups". On the other hand, Leech and Svartvik in Wardhaugh (2000: 26) said that language which is very familiar in style, and is usually restricted to the members of a particular social group, for example '*teenage slang*', '*arm slang*', '*theatre slang*'. Based on definitions above, it can be conclude that slang is not usually fully understood by people outside a particular social group, and so has a value of showing the intimacy and solidarity of its members. Slang is words or phrases which are very informal, often temporary, and which usually used to identity with one's peers and used by people of all ages and social groups. Slang is a way of dividing the insiders from the outsiders, a way for a group to separate itself linguistically from other groups, slang terms tend to describe negative or taboo things, or extremes.

In this case, writer will discuss slang that used by teenagers that called '*alay*'. It appears for the first in online discussion Indonesia forum, namely kaskus.com. Alay is acronym of Anak Layanagan, Anak Lebay which is related to teenagers who rarely go home. Alay is for most part attributed to speech of young generation which is closely associated with modern trends in the way of its life, thinking, clothing, acting as well as speaking. Nowadays, *alay* terms used in social media include sms languagae, blackberry messenger, line, twitter, facebook and instagram. Alay expresses by many acronyms, lingos or symbols, called emoticons. Alay language according to

Rachmawati (Rachmawati, 2011: 50) in her article: "Penggunaan Bahasa Indonesia oleh Remaja Pada Media Facebook", there are five forms of alay language, there are abbreviation, alphabet changing, jargon, irregular capital letter usage, abridgement sentence. In this research, writer only discuss the forms of alay language, that are; abbreviation, alphabet changing, and irregular capital letter usage.

### **Concept of Semantics**

According to Kredler (1998: 3) semantics is the systematic study of meaning, and linguistics semantics is study of how language organize and express meanings. According to Harnish (1994: 540) semantics is a discipline which, speaking loosely, deals with certain relations between expressions of a language and the object (or 'states of affairs') 'referred to' by those expressions.

Huford (1983: 1) stated that semantics is study of meaning in language. In language, word is related to meaning. As stated by Nikelas (1988: 50), there are three features of language. First, language has sound. Second, language is systematic and thrid, language always has meaning. Meaning has important relation with language. Because of this people also need a study about meaning that gives clear explanation of meaning. They will be easy to show their intention in daily activity.

Larson (1988: 27) stated that meaning can be classified into four. There are as follow:

1. Grammatical meaning. It has two definitions involving the meaning expressed by grammatical ending, word order or intonation on the part of meaning which varies from one from of paradigms to the other.
2. Lexical meaning is the meaning that is given by dictionary.
3. Textual meaning is the meaning that is acquired from the relationship among one word to another word in a sentence.
4. Contextual or situational meaning that arises from the situation or context where the words, phrase, sentence and expression are used.

In this research, the alay language will be analyzed based on the term of semantics features by using contextual meaning. As stated by Larson, contextual meaning is the meaning that arises from situation or context where the words, phrase, sentence and expression are used.

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research method is divided into five parts. They are type of research, object of the study, source of the data, method of collecting data, and technique of data analysis.

#### **Type of Research**

In this research, the writer uses a descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive research is a type of research, which does not include of any calculation or statistic but it includes words or description of the object as a result.

#### **1. Object of the Study**

The object of the study is words in sentences. This research only analyses on abbreviation, alphabet changing, and irregular capital usage.

#### **2. Source of the Data**

The type of data in this research is written data. The data are taken from social media. The words are commonly used in social media communication.

#### **3. Method of Collecting Data**

The writer use documentation and observation method. The techniques used in collecting data are:

- a. The writer observes and collects sentences that used in social media communication.
- b. The writer copies the data and gives the code.

#### **4. Technique of Data Analysis**

The techniques of analysis are:

- a. Collecting and selecting the data which can be categorized as *alay* language.
- b. Classifying the data based on the forms of *alay* language.
- c. Determining the meaning of words which have been discussed.

## DATA AND ANALYSIS

### Abbreviation

- a. (AL/SM/No.1/BBM)  
"ya bntar lg, ne lg otw"  
"iya sebentar lagi, ini lg on the way (perjalanan)  
Wait a minute, I'm on the way.
- b. (AL/SM/No. 15/LINE)  
"sebel di PHPin terus"  
"sebel diberi harapan palsu terus".  
I'm disappointed, he always gives false hope.
- c. (AL/SM/No.4/IG)  
"OK, udh aq terima.thx"  
"Oke, sudah aku terima, terima kasih"  
Oke, I have already received, thank you"
- d. (AL/SM/No.23/BBM)  
"mls ngobrol sama lu, lola ah!"  
"males ngobrol sama lu, loading lama ah!"  
I'm not happy to talk with you, you don't understand.
- e. (AL/SM/No.2/LINE)  
"Boci dulu ah"  
"Bobo siang dulu ah"  
It's time for take a nap.
- f. (AL/SM/NO.10/FB)  
"plan gw gatot gara2 hujan"  
"plan gue gagal total gara – gara hujan"  
My plan was failed because of rain.
- g. (AL/SM/No.12/BBM)  
"sll ga' bs on time. KZL"  
"Selalu tidak bisa on time, kesel"  
I'm disappointed, he can't always be on time
- h. (AL/SM/No. 20/BBM)  
"gw plng dl, Gbye"  
"gua pulang dulu, Good bye"  
I wanna go home, Good bye
- i. (AL/SM//No.5/LINE)  
"thanks udh dianterin, CU"  
"terima kasih sudah dianterin, see you"  
Thank you for deliver me, see you

- j. (AL/SM/No. 11/TWT)  
"TITI DJ yach"  
"hati – hati dijalan yach"  
Be careful

### Alphabet Changing

- a. (AL/SM/No.11/LINE)  
"laper bingits"  
"laper banget"  
I am very hungry
- b. (AL/SM/No.16/PATH)  
"ak bubu duyu ya, nite.."  
"ak bobo dulu ya, nite.."  
I wanna sleep, good nite
- c. (AL/SM/No.9/IG)  
Cory, gw lupa bawa jaketx  
"Sorry, gue lupa bawa jaketnya"  
Sorry, I forget to bring the jacket
- d. (AL/SM/No.7/LINE)  
"Honey, cemungudh ya"  
"Honey, semangat ya"  
Honey, keep spirit!
- e. (AL/SM/No.22/PATH)  
"Buruan, kebuyu teyat neh"  
"Buruan, kebuyu telat neh"  
Hurry up, I'm late!
- f. (AL/SM/No.30/BBM)  
"Santai aj keles"  
"Santai aja kali"  
Be relaxed please
- g. (AL/SM/No.27/FB)  
"Ga' usah bingung woles aja"  
"tidak usah bingung slow aja"  
Don't be confused, be relaxed
- h. (AL/SM/No.17/IG)  
"transferna udh gw kirim yach!"  
"transferynya sudah gue kirim yach!"  
I have sent the money
- i. (AL/SM/No.19/BBM)  
"macam say"  
"sama – sama say"  
Your welcome dear
- j. (AL/SM/No.28/FB)  
"sumpah binun bgt gw"  
"sumpah bingung banget gue"  
Really, I'm very confused

### **Irregular capital letter usage**

- a. (AL/SM/No.3/BBM)  
"mo kEm4n4?"  
"mau kemana?"  
Where are you going?
- b. (AL/SM/No.21/TWT)  
"13RuaN ksni"  
"Buruan kesini"  
Hurry up, come here!
- c. (AL/SM/No.13/BBM)  
"Gara" u jd tl4t d3ch!  
'gara – gara kamu jadi telat deh!  
Because of you, I'm late
- d. (AL/SM/No.18/LINE)  
"huj4N dr3s, gw g4 dtg"  
"hujan deras gue gak datang"  
I don't come because heavy rain
- e. (AL/SM/No.26/BBM)  
"Horee beco libur"  
"Horee besuk libur"  
Horee tomorrow is holiday
- f. (AL/SM/No.16/LINE)  
"Gi n4pn"  
"lagi ngapain"  
What are you doing?
- g. (AL/SM/No.24/BBM)  
"jng g3 dl"  
"jangan ganggu dulu"  
Don't disturb me
- h. (AL/SM/No.29/TWT)  
"yupz, se7"  
"yupz, setuju"  
Yupz, I agree
- i. (AL/SM/No.25/BBM)  
"ini lg m4k4n"  
"ini lagi makan"  
I'm eating
- j. (AL/SM/No.14/BBM)  
"M44fin gw"  
"maafin gue"  
I'm sorry

### **CONCLUSION**

After finishing the data analysis, the writer conclude that the essence of communication is transmission of meaning from one individual to another. Talk is the

primary means by which people interact and satisfy personal and social goals. People interact primarily through talk, most often in informal conversation. 'Alay' is one of slang language that used in talk between teenagers. It can be understood by certain group particularly group who use 'alay' language. 'Alay' language for communication has many errors in Bahasa Indonesia. Alay language in social media can be minimized in order.

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