

**A STUDY OF SLANG LANGUAGE USAGE IN SPEAKING ENGLISH
BY THE SIXTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH STUDY
PROGRAM AT IKIP PGRI BOJONEGORO
IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR
2024/2025**

SKRIPSI



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**Submitted to the IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirement for the Degree of Education of English Department**

**ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS EDUCATION
IKIP PGRI BOJONEGORO**

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Presented to
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in partial fulfillment of requirements
for the degree of Sarjana in the English Study Program

By
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**ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS EDUCATION
IKIP PGRI BOJONEGORO
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Bojonegoro, 17 July 2024

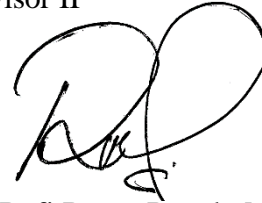
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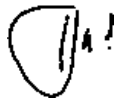
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The researcher is a student with the following identity:

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In order to uphold academic integrity, sincerely and without any coercion from any party, I declare that this thesis, titled:

A Study of Slang Language Usage in Speaking English by The Sixth Semester Students of English Study Program at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro

This is my original work, and I have clearly listed all the sources of information used in the references according to the scientific code of ethics. I understand that if any violations of academic ethics regarding the originality of this work are found, **I am personally** willing to accept the consequences according to the applicable regulations and am prepared to face legal sanctions.

Bojonegoro, 17 July 2024

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ABSTRACT

Hidayati, Fitri Nur. 2024 A Study of Slang Language Usage in Speaking English by The Sixth Semester Students of English Study Program at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro. Skripsi, English Education Study Program, Faculty of Language and Arts Education, IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro, Advisor Fitri Nurdianingsih, S.Pd., M.Pd. (II) Dr. Refi Ranto Rozak, M.Pd.

Key Word: Language, Speaking, Slang

This study investigates the use of slang among sixth-semester students of the English Education Study Program at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro in the 2024/2025 academic year. The main objectives were to examine the prevalence of slang use in informal communication settings and its impact on students' speaking proficiency, as well as to identify the types of slang used. A qualitative descriptive method was employed, combining questionnaires, interviews, and observations to gather comprehensive data. The findings reveal that slang is a prevalent aspect of informal communication among students, significantly enhancing social connectivity and communication skills. Most students reported frequent use of slang, particularly abbreviations and internet slang, in casual conversations, group discussions, and social media interactions. While students demonstrated the ability to transition from slang to formal English, challenges remained in academic contexts. The study identified that slang enhances peer communication, although it can lead to misunderstandings in formal settings. Analysis of questionnaire responses showed that 60% of students frequently use slang, and 75% believe it improves communication with friends. Interviews highlighted students' confidence in using slang and their experiences with code-switching. Observations confirmed the widespread use of slang and its positive impact on peer interactions, despite occasional challenges in maintaining formality. Based on the research findings, it can be concluded that while slang is beneficial for social interactions, a balanced approach is necessary to manage its use in academic settings.

ABSTRAK

Hidayati, Fitri Nur. 2024 A Study of Slang Language Usage in Speaking English by The Sixth Semester Students of English Study Program at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro. Skripsi, English Education Study Program, Faculty of Language and Arts Education, IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro, Advisor Fitri Nurdianingsih, S.Pd., M.Pd. (II) Dr. Refi Ranto Rozak, M.Pd.

Key Word: Bahasa, Berbicara, Bahasa Gaul

Penelitian ini menyelidiki penggunaan bahasa slang di kalangan mahasiswa semester enam Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris di IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro pada tahun akademik 2024/2025. Tujuan utama penelitian ini adalah untuk mengkaji prevalensi penggunaan bahasa slang dalam situasi komunikasi informal dan dampaknya terhadap keterampilan berbicara mahasiswa, serta untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis slang yang digunakan. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif, menggabungkan kuesioner, wawancara, dan observasi untuk mengumpulkan data yang komprehensif. Temuan mengungkapkan bahwa slang adalah aspek yang umum dalam komunikasi informal di kalangan mahasiswa, yang secara signifikan meningkatkan konektivitas sosial dan keterampilan komunikasi. Sebagian besar mahasiswa melaporkan penggunaan slang yang sering, terutama singkatan dan slang internet, dalam percakapan santai, diskusi kelompok, dan interaksi di media sosial. Meskipun mahasiswa menunjukkan kemampuan untuk beralih dari slang ke bahasa Inggris formal, tantangan tetap ada dalam konteks akademik. Penelitian ini mengidentifikasi bahwa slang meningkatkan komunikasi antar teman, meskipun dapat menyebabkan kesalahpahaman dalam situasi formal. Analisis respon kuesioner menunjukkan bahwa 60% mahasiswa sering menggunakan slang, dan 75% percaya bahwa itu meningkatkan komunikasi dengan teman. Wawancara menyoroti kepercayaan diri mahasiswa dalam menggunakan slang dan pengalaman mereka dalam beralih kode bahasa. Observasi mengkonfirmasi penggunaan slang yang luas dan dampak positifnya pada interaksi antar teman, meskipun ada tantangan sesekali dalam mempertahankan formalitas. Berdasarkan temuan penelitian, dapat disimpulkan bahwa meskipun slang bermanfaat untuk interaksi sosial, pendekatan yang seimbang diperlukan untuk mengelola penggunaannya dalam konteks akademik.

MOTTO

*"Too Young to Rush, Too Old to Waste Time.
I Pray to Achieve the Future We've Always Dreamed Of.
Let's Win This Together."*

"I Gave My Blood, Sweat, and Tears for This.

Long Story Short, I Survived."

- Taylor Swift -

DEDICATION

Thank God I pray to the presence of Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala for all His mercy, guidance and grace. With gratitude and all my love, this thesis is dedicated to:

1. My mom, Mrs. Safi'atun, who has been a great source of comfort, a shoulder to cry on, and has held me up when I couldn't stand on my own. Thank you so much for your love, patience, and support has kept me going over the last few years. I will make you proud of me, mom, and may you stay healthy, live long, and always be happy. *I love you so much, more than a lot, more than you know, more than anything.*
2. My dad, Mr. Abdul Karim. Thank you so much for your loves, supports, prayers, attention, respect, and everything that you give to me until this time. May you stay healthy, live long, and always be happy. I love you.
3. Last but not least, I want to thank myself for surviving the days that I thought I couldn't, and for making it this far in life. Thank you for not giving up despite all those sleepless nights, self doubt, and breakdowns. *Finally, hard work really paid off! You did well, so proud of you!!*

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Praise and gratitude be to Allah SWT for His abundant mercy and grace, enabling the completion of the thesis titled " A Study of Slang Language Usage in Speaking English by Sixth Semester English Study Program at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro." This thesis was completed within the planned timeframe.

Throughout the process of writing this thesis, the author faced many challenges, but they were overcome thanks to the support and assistance from many parties. At this opportunity, I would like to express my gratitude to:

1. Dr Junarti, M.Pd. as the Rector of IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro
2. Mrs. Fitri Nurdianingsih. M.Pd. as the Dean Faculty of Language and Art Education
3. Chyntia Heru Woro Prastiwi, M.Pd. as Head of the English Education Study Program.
4. My first advisor Mrs. Fitri Nurdianingsih. M.Pd. who has supported me, guided me, and given corrections to me in completing my skripsi patiently.
5. My second advisor Dr. Refi Ranto Rozak, M.Pd. who has been guiding me and giving corrections to me in completing my thesis.

Therefore, constructive suggestion is needed for the progress of the next study. Then, the researcher hopes that this research can contribute to the development of education

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English language holds significant importance globally as a lingua franca, facilitating communication across diverse cultures and countries. In Indonesian senior high school's, English language instruction plays a crucial role in preparing students for academic, professional, and social endeavors. The approach to teaching English in school's is influenced by national curriculum standards and educational policies.

According to Muhartoyo & Wijaya (2014) Language is the primary component of communication. Everyone has a unique way of using language for communication. People are more polite while speaking with the speaker's elder than when speaking with the speaker's younger. Akmajian in Muhartoyo & Wijaya (2014) says that lingua francas, pidgins, creoles, jargon, slang, and taboo language are a few examples of linguistic varieties that linguists find interesting.

According to Ur in Leong & Ahmadi (2017) Among the four language skills : listening, speaking, reading, and writing, speaking stands out as the most crucial for effective communication. English language instruction aims to equip students with proficiency in these skills to effectively communicate in English speaking environments. Furthermore, the curriculum often incorporates grammar instruction, vocabulary building, and cultural aspects of English-speaking countries.

Speaking proficiency in English among students, particularly in the context of slang language usage, presents a significant area of concern in language education research. Speaking is very important in language learning because, as social creatures, people need to interact to share ideas and thoughts, organize and persuade others. Speaking is an essential skill for students because it is critical in helping them learn English. The ultimate goal of language learning is effective communication (Azizah et al., 2023).

Mastering speaking skills is essential in second language acquisition and instruction. In contemporary times, the emphasis in teaching speaking lies in enhancing students' communicative abilities, enabling them to effectively express themselves and acquire proficiency in utilizing their target languages (Ilham et al., 2020)

Cameron in Ilham et al. (2020) says that Speaking entails the active utilization of language to convey meanings in a comprehensible manner to others. This process involves a multifaceted skill set, encompassing proficiency in phonetics, grammar, vocabulary, and cultural nuances within the language system. Essentially, speaking constitutes a productive aspect of language use, wherein individuals generate linguistic output to interact and communicate within various social contexts, thereby demonstrating their language proficiency.

According to Muhartoyo & Wijaya (2014), slang is the most well-known variety of language when contrasted with jargon or argot. The distinction between slang and jargon lies in their respective functions: slang is employed to express the speaker's attitude, whereas jargon is utilized by individuals within

the same profession to discuss professional matters, such as two doctors conversing in medical terminology within a hospital setting. In contrast, argot serves as a secretive or coded form of language, employed to conceal the speaker's intentions.

Hornby in Rezeki & Sagala (2019) says that slang encompasses words, phrases, and meanings commonly employed in casual conversations among peers or associates, but considered inappropriate for formal writing or formal settings. It represents a form of informal language usage specific to particular social groups such as teenagers, musicians, or even criminals, serving to reinforce group identity. Slang tends to be particularly prevalent among the millennial generation. Slang language, characterized by informal and colloquial expressions, poses unique challenges to students' speaking abilities, as it diverges from standard English norms and may be unfamiliar to non-native speakers.

Slang language refers to informal, colloquial expressions and vocabulary used within specific social groups or contexts. It is characterized by its dynamic and ever-changing nature, often reflecting cultural trends and societal influences. The prevalence of slang language in informal communication settings, such as among peers, on social media, and in popular culture, underscores its relevance to some of the students' of English Study Program at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro in daily interactions. However, the incorporation of slang language into formal spoken English presents a dilemma for language educators, as it may hinder clarity, coherence, and appropriateness in communication.

Previous research on student speaking ability in English has highlighted various factors influencing proficiency levels, including exposure to English outside the classroom, confidence levels, and teaching methodologies. However, there is limited research specifically addressing the use of slang language on student speaking ability. Based on the exposition above, the researcher will conduct research on the understanding of using slang language on students' speaking ability.

B. Research Questions

In this study, the researcher has two main problems to analyze, they are:

1. How does the prevalence of slangs language in informal communication settings affecting the speaking proficiency of English Departement students at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro?
2. What kind of slangs language are used by the sixth semester students of the English Departement at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro?

C. Objectives of the Research

Based on the problems above, the objectives of this study are:

1. To investigate the relationship between the prevalence of slangs language in informal communication settings and the speaking proficiency of English Departement students at IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro
2. To identify the kinds of students' slang usage

D. Significance of the Research

1. Theoretically

This research contributes to the understanding of the impact of slang language on student speaking ability, enhancing theoretical knowledge in language education.

2. Practically

- a. For educators, the findings can inform teaching strategies to address the challenges posed by slang language in formal English communication.
- b. For students, it can enhance awareness of language use and improve communication skills.

3. For future researchers

The study provides a foundation for further exploration into the role of slang language in language acquisition and communication.

E. Definition of Key Terminologies

1. Language

Language can be defined as a system of communication that uses symbols, such as words, sounds, gestures, or written characters, to convey meaning among individuals or groups. It is a structured and rule-governed system, allowing humans to express thoughts, ideas, emotions, and information, as well as to interact with others and to organize and transmit knowledge across generations.

According to Crystal & Robins (2024) Language is a system of conventional symbols, whether spoken, manual (signed), or written, through

which individuals express themselves as members of a social group and participants in its culture. Language plays a crucial role in social interactions, facilitating communication between individuals. Its primary function is to convey intentions and messages from one person to another. Through language, people can exchange information, news, and thoughts, making it an essential tool in daily communication for humans (Yultisa & Mardiah, 2019)

Owen in Oviogun & Veerdee (2020) explains Language can be defined as a system of socially shared symbols and rule-governed combinations thereof. It encompasses various combinations of symbols governed by specific provisions.

From the definitions above, language is a communication system that utilizes symbols such as words, sounds, gestures, or written characters to convey meaning among individuals or groups. It enables the expression of thoughts, ideas, and emotions, facilitating social interaction and information exchange within human culture.

2. Speaking

Speaking refers to the act of producing vocal sounds and verbal expressions to communicate thoughts, ideas, or information orally. It involves the use of language skills such as pronunciation, intonation, articulation, and fluency to convey meaning effectively in spoken form.

According to Rahmawati et al. (2013) Students at various educational levels, including university, senior high school, junior high school, and elementary school, encounter challenges with speaking. These obstacles are

influenced by factors such as insufficient vocabulary, weak pronunciation, grammatical deficiencies, low self-confidence, and lack of motivation in English. Harmer in Bahadorfar and Omidvar (2014) says Speaking occurs in real-time where individuals engage in conversations and produce words spontaneously, with immediate responses from the interlocutor. Unlike written communication, speaking does not allow for revising or editing what has been said, highlighting its direct nature as a form of speech language.

From the definitions, speaking involves orally expressing thoughts and ideas using language skills like pronunciation and fluency. Students encounter challenges in speaking due to factors such as limited vocabulary and low confidence. Speaking occurs in real-time during conversations, without the chance to revise what has been said.

3. Slangs

Slang refers to informal, non-standard words, phrases, or expressions used within particular social groups or contexts. It often deviates from formal language norms and may include newly coined terms, unconventional usage of words, or culturally specific language. Slang is dynamic and constantly evolving, reflecting current trends, attitudes, and cultural influences. It is commonly used in casual or informal communication settings and may convey a sense of identity, camaraderie, or insider knowledge among speakers.

Slang is a type of linguistic expression. Language variety, also known as speech variety, encompasses any discernible form of speech utilized by an individual or a collective of speakers. Linguistic characteristics of a speech

variety manifest across lexical, phonological, morphological, and syntactical levels of the language (Izmaylova et al., 2017).

According to Muhartoyo & Wijaya (2014) slang is integrated into language variation due to the necessity to adjust to evolving societal norms and considerations of social status. Despite the absence of formal instruction in curricula, slang remains prevalent and even gains popularity, particularly among younger demographics. It comprises informal expressions commonly used in speech within specific social circles or workplaces, but it is generally unsuitable for formal settings and tends to have a transient lifespan.

From the definitions above, Slang refers to informal language used within specific social groups, deviating from formal norms. It evolves constantly, reflecting cultural trends, and fosters camaraderie among speakers. It is not suitable for formal contexts and tends to have a short lifespan.