



**AN ANALYSIS OF WORD FORMS AND MEANINGS OF SLANG  
LANGUAGE IN EMINEM'S SONG LYRICS**

**THESIS**

*Submitted to Fulfill a Partial Requirements for S1 Degree  
in English Department Faculty of Humanities  
Bung Hatta University*

**DEFI NOFRIZAL  
0910014211018**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
BUNG HATTA UNIVERSITY  
2017**



## LEMBAR PERSETUJUAN

**Judul Skripsi** : An Analysis of Word Forms and Meanings of Slang  
Language in Eminem's Song Lyrics  
**Nama Mahasiswa** : Defi Nofrizal  
**NPM** : 0910014211018  
**Jurusan** : Sastra Inggris  
**Fakultas** : Ilmu Budaya

disetujui oleh:

**Pembimbing I**

**Pembimbing II**

**Diana Chitra Hasan, M.Hum.,M.Ed.,Ph.D. Temmy Thamrin, M.Hum.,Ph.D.**

diketahui oleh:

**Dekan**

**Ketua Jurusan**

**Dr. Elfiondri, M. Hum.**

**Diana Chitra Hasan, M. Hum., M.Ed., Ph.D.**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to praise and thank to Allah swt for giving me the strength, health, and ability to finish this thesis. I also would like to send my regards to the prophet Muhammad saw, his family and friends.

On this opportunity, I would like to express my gratitude to the first supervisor, Mrs. Diana Chitra Hasan, M.Hum., M.Ed., Ph.D. who has given suggestion for perfection of the thesis. I would like to thank my second supervisor, Mrs. Temmy Thamrin, M.Hum., Ph.D. for the guidance in thesis supervision. I also want to express my great thanks to Dr. Elfiondri, M.Hum., and Mrs. Dra. Nova Rina, M.Hum. as the examiners who have given improvement during thesis examination. On this occasion, I also would like to thank the Dean of Faculty of Humanities Bung Hatta University, who also gives motivation for the writer. Moreover, I would like to thank all lecturers in English Department for their knowledge until I finish my study in Bung Hatta University.

I dedicate this thesis for my beloved parents; my father, Damhur, and my mother Rosmidar for their true love and support all this time. I also would like to express my appreciation to my brothers: Jenny Syafri, Kurniawan, Khairul Umri, and my sisters: Erma Deliaty and Mailiza Diskarina who always motivate me to graduate soon, and also to my lovely nieces Afifah Fitia, Dea Syafira, and Nayla.

The special thanks also given to my brothers: Muhammad Rafiqi, Andre Kocil Satya, Hendri, Fery, Arsy, Radja Nur Hidayat, Hendra, Dhani Jambak, Brother Am, Arya, Beni, Emilius, Uncle Ded, Tobak, Gandi Tito Karel, and Dani

who always remind me to write the thesis. Thank you very much for all of your kindness and attention. The last one, my special note to Fathohatul Afdal to graduate soon.

Padang, July 4, 2017

Defi Nofrizal

## AN ANALYSIS OF WORD FORMS AND MEANINGS OF SLANG LANGUAGE IN EMINEM'S SONG LYRICS

Defi Nofrizal<sup>1</sup>, Diana Chitra Hasan<sup>2</sup>, Temmy Thamrin<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Student of English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Bung Hatta University

<sup>2</sup>Lecturer of English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Bung Hatta University

Email: [defi\\_nofrizal@yahoo.com](mailto:defi_nofrizal@yahoo.com)

### Abstract

This research aims to analyze slang language used in Eminem's song lyrics. The main focuses of the analysis are to find out the word forms of slang and meanings. The writer uses theory of word forms by Yule (2006) and the theory of meaning by Leech (1981). The research used descriptive and qualitative method. The data are taken from Eminem's five new songs in the last album *Shady XV*. The songs are *Shady XV*, *Slaughterhouse – Psychopath Killer*, *Bad Meets Evil*, *Bane*, and *Down*.

The finding of the research shows that the word forms subordinators in the songs are classified into six types. They are blending (*dammit*, *na-ah*, *squee*), borrowing (*nigga*, *kemosabe*), compounding (*goon talk*, *little chick*, *chinky eyed*, *gold digger*), clipping (*grindin'*, *blankin'*), back-formation (*knockers*, *bandwagoners*, *motherfucker*, *iller*, *realer*, *booger*, *bonkers*) and acronym (*IGGY*, *BAE*, *SWAG*, *USE*, *HUMVEE*). The word form is often used is back-formation.

However, for the meaning of the word, the writer found five types of meaning. They are conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, and social meaning. The meaning that often occurs is affective meaning.

**Key words:** *slang language, Eminem's song lyrics, word forms and seven types of meaning*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b> .....	i
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	ii
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	iii
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background of the Problem.....	1
1.2 Identification and Limitation of the Problem.....	4
1.3 Formulation of the Problem.....	5
1.4 Purpose of the Research.....	5
1.5 Significance of the Research.....	5
<b>CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK</b> .....	<b>6</b>
2.1 Review of Related Literature.....	6
2.1.1 Sociolinguistics.....	6
2.1.2 Morphology.....	9
2.1.3 Semantic.....	10
2.1.4 Previous Studies.....	11
2.2 Theoretical Framework.....	12

2.2.1 Slang Language.....	12
2.2.2 Word Forms.....	12
1) Blending.....	13
2) Borrowing.....	13
3) Coinage.....	13
4) Compounding.....	14
5) Clipping.....	14
6) Back Formation.....	15
7) Acronym.....	15
8) Multiple Processes.....	16
9) Affixes.....	16
2.2.3 Meanings.....	17
1) Conceptual meaning.....	17
2) Connotative meaning.....	17
3) Social meaning.....	17
4) Affective meaning.....	18
5) Reflected meaning.....	18

6) Collocative meaning.....	18
7) Thematic meaning.....	19
<b>CHAPTER III METHOD OF THE RESEARCH.....</b>	<b>20</b>
3.1 Source of the Data.....	21
3.2 Technique of Data Collection.....	21
3.3 Technique of Data Analysis.....	22
3.4 Technique of Representing the Data Analysis.....	23
<b>CHAPTER IV THE WORD FORMS AND MEANINGS OF SLANG</b>	
<b>    USED            IN            EMINEM'S            SONG</b>	
<b>    LYRICS.....</b>	<b>24</b>
4.1 Blending.....	24
4.2 Borrowing.....	27
4.3 Compounding.....	29
4.4 Clipping.....	32
4.5 Back-formation.....	34
4.6 Acronym.....	39
<b>CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION.....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>APPENDICES</b>	



## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Problem

In our daily life, language is an important tool to communicate to one other. Almost all activities of human use language as medium of communication. The people involve in the conversation are usually called the speaker and the hearer. The type of language is used based on who the speaker speaks and the purpose of the speak. The language can be used in oral or written form. Besides, the language is also used in formal and informal situation. In formal situation, the people use standard language. Meanwhile in informal situation, the people use casual or nonstandard language.

One of the languages used in informal situation is slang language. According to Richard et al (1985), slang is a very informal speech variety used in informal situation which often called as in-group language for a particular set of people such as teenagers, army, and pop group. It can be understood that slang language is usually used by young people who join the same community and they know each other. The type of language used by the speaker and hearer in their communication is informal and also happened in informal setting.

Along the time changes, the language used in the society also has improvement. Sometimes there are new words and terms become popular especially in young people community. Langga (2013) states that “nowadays

teenagers develop a new English variety in simple and ungrammatical in order to have an easier conversation or communication. The new language they made is known as slang”. It can be understood that slang language is used generally by young people. The slang language is simple and do not apply the rules in grammar. The purpose of the slang is to make the communication easier.

However, slang occurs in oral communication all over the world. Pedersen (2007) writes that slang is just like any other part of language changing over time. The slang of one generation is very often replaced with new slang by the following generation. Slang is used in many different types of media and situations. In computer mediated communication, such as instant messaging, a lot of the language used is slang, such as writing “lol” instead of “laughing out loud” or “CU” instead of “see you”. This reason is the most attract the writer because slang language changes according to the time. That’s why not all of slang language can be found in one slang dictionary because it always has improvement year by year.

Furthermore Webster (1967) writes that:

Slang is language of particular group, trade or pursuit or an informal, non-standard vocabulary changed word and extravagant, forced by facetious figures of speech. Slang language is mainly spoken form which is used in social milieus and popular media, and to certain extent it is used in song lyrics and publication, such as teen magazine or pop culture magazine.

It can be seen from the quotation that slang is used generally by young people in spoken form such as in the song lyrics. Pedersen (2007) describes that “In music, slang is very important for many artists to show which genre, be it hip-hop or rock, they belong to”. It means that in spoken language such in the song, the slang is used to show the kind of music variety that the artists follow.

One of the famous artists who often use slang in his lyrics is Eminem. Eminem is an American rapper, music producer, and actor ([www.biography.com](http://www.biography.com)). He is known as the most controversial rapper and best selling artists of the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. Eminem is stage name of Marshall Bruce Mathers III. He was born in Saint Joseph, Missouri, United States on October 17, 1972. His nickname is Slim Shady. Eminem likes rap music since he was a child. At the age of 14 he began to get very serious about rap music. He made his own stage name M&M and read as Eminem. His songs contain critics for his mother, songs for his wife and for other artists. He often move from town to town and dropped out from high school. Eventhough he does not complete his study, he has a passion for language. He finds a way to express his feelings and youthful anger through hip-hop music. Eminem’s singing career is outstanding and he already has 76 albums. Most of his album got platinum. Curtis Hanson makes a movie entitled *8-mile* that was considered as biography of Eminem. In 1999 Eminem founded his own record company namely Shady Record.

Eminem's style when he writes the song lyrics is narrative. His long song lyric is like a short story that he tells some experience in his life by using slang language. For example:

- The media made me the equivalent of a modern-day Genghis khan,
- Tried to argue it was only entertainment, *dawg*,
- But sometimes you *gotta* take a loss,
- And have people *rub* it *in* your face before you get made *pissed off*

(Taken from the song *Guts over Fear* 2014 by Eminem)

The slang on the data above are *dawg*, *rub in* and *pissed off*. *Dawg* is formed by using taboo word which means "dog". *Rub in* means joins a kind of a party until you feel *pissed off* which means get mad or get very angry. In these samples, Eminem seems to express what he feels about somebody else, what kind of community that he joins. However, if the listeners do not understand language, they will not understand the message that the singer wants to say. Therefore, slang has its own uniqueness and need to be studied scientifically in order to be able to understand the form and the meaning of the slang.

## **1.2. Identification and Limitation of the Problem**

This research tries to study the slang language used in song lyrics of rap and hip hop music by Eminem. There are some aspects of language studies in the song lyrics of this music genre such as the choice of words, the figurative language, the difference of slang in rap and hip hop music with other music

genres, the speakers of slang in the song, the reason and purpose of uttering the slang words, the morphological process of slang words, the sound of slang words, the ungrammatical writing in the song lyrics, the forms of slang language, and the meanings.

In this research, the writer limits the analysis on the word forms of slang and describes the meanings taken from Eminem's song lyrics.

### **1.3 Formulation of the Problem**

Based on background and limitation of the problem above, the writer formulates of the research questions:

1. What are the forms of slang words used in Eminem's song lyrics?
2. What are the meanings of slang used in that song lyrics?

### **1.4 Purpose of the Research**

In accordance with the reason and research questions, the objectives of the research are formulated as follows:

1. To find out the forms of slang words used in Eminem's song lyrics.
2. To describe the meanings of slang used in that song lyrics.

### **1.5. Significance of the Research**

By doing this research, the writer expects that the research will be useful for readers, especially for the readers who are interested in studying and knowing more about sociolinguistics. The research is also related to morphology and semantic. Moreover, the writer hopes that the findings of this research can help the readers to understand about the word forms and meanings of slang language in Eminem's songs.