

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the writer presents the findings and discussions related to the research problem concerning the social functions and formation processes of slang words in the Netflix series *Never Have I Ever Season 1*. After collecting data from the utterances of characters in the series *Never Have I Ever*, the writer successfully identified 53 instances of slang. This analysis presents a selection of these slang words from Season 1, detailing their types of formation processes, definitions, social functions, and etymologies.

4.1 Findings

4.1.1 Compounding

Slang can be formed by combining two or more words to create a new term. The formation through a process stringing together two or more free morpheme to one complex lexeme.

Data 1 *Never Have I Ever* Season 1 Ep. 1

Time stamp: 07:09>>07:11

Character: Devi



Devi: “I mean, last year was a freshmen **shit-fest**.”

Table 1: Example of compounding 1

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
1.	Shit-fest	Compounding Noun + Noun	Shit (bad/unpleasant) + Fest (clipped form of Festival) celebratory connotation = Shit-Fest (Compounding with Semantic Shift)	Expression of Attitudes and Emotional	Chaotic or unpleasant situation

When Devi describes her freshman year as a "shit fest," she uses the term to vividly depict her freshman year as a time filled with negative experiences, unpleasantness, and chaos. The phrase emphasizes her dissatisfaction with that period, conveying that it was overwhelmingly negative and pervasive in its unpleasantness. The social function of this slang is to express strong emotions and share a common understanding among peers about the intensity of negative experiences, fostering a sense of shared discontent and solidarity in facing challenging times.

In the context of slang formation, the term "shit fest" can be categorized under compounding with elements of semantic shift and clipping. Compounding involves combining two or more words to create a new term with a specific meaning. In this case, "shit" is a vulgar term often used to describe something bad, unpleasant, or of low quality, while "fest" is a clipped form of "festival" or "festivity," usually indicating a large event or gathering with a celebratory connotation. When combined, "shit fest" forms a new phrase that vividly implies a situation or period characterized by unpleasantness, chaos, or poor quality. This combination creates a powerful image of an experience or event that was overwhelmingly negative. Semantic shift involves changing a word's meaning over time or using it in a new context. In "shit fest," "shit" shifts from meaning excrement to a general term for something bad, and "fest" shifts from a positive celebration to a negative

experience. This shift emphasizes the unpleasantness by turning the normally positive connotation of "fest" into a negative one.

Data 2 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 1

Time stamp: 04:33>>04:35

Character: Devi



Devi: “I just want him to be a **stone-cold** hottie, who could rock me all night long.”

Table 2: Example of compounding 2

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
2.	Stone-cold	Compounding Noun + Adjective	stone + cold (Compounding with Semantic Shift)	Expression of Attitudes and Emotional	unfeeling or emotionless

Devi prays to her god, expressing her desire to have a boyfriend who is a "stone-cold hottie" this year. The term "stone-cold hottie" is a creative combine of descriptors that intensifies the meaning of "hottie" (a very attractive person) by adding "stone-cold," which typically means unfeeling or emotionless. This combination creates a new, vivid image that highlights an idealized, unattainable level of attractiveness. This term exemplifies how slang evolves by merging existing words to create new expressions that capture complex ideas in a concise, impactful manner. The use of contemporary slang in a traditional prayer setting shows how personal and cultural expressions can adapt and innovate within established

practices. Devi’s prayer is not just a request; it’s an adaptation of her spiritual practice to include modern language, making her connection with her faith more personal and contemporary. Devi uses the term to uniquely express her personal aspirations, making her prayer distinctive and relatable to her peers who understand the slang. The creative use of slang allows Devi to express her individuality and specific desires in a way that is culturally relevant and immediately understood by her social group.

Data 3 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 6

Time stamp: 04:46>>04:48

Character: Ben



Ben: “Well, sitting courtside at an NBA game is also pretty **Gram-worthy**, so...”

Table 3: Example of compounding 3

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
3.	Gram-worthy	Compounding Noun + Adjective	Gram (clipped from Instagram a social media application) + worthy	Creativity and Innovation	Deserved to be post on Instagram

Ben uses the term "Gram-worthy" to describe the experience of watching an NBA game from courtside seats, suggesting that it is an event worth posting on social media. The term "Gram-worthy" creatively integrates the concept of social media with real-life experiences.

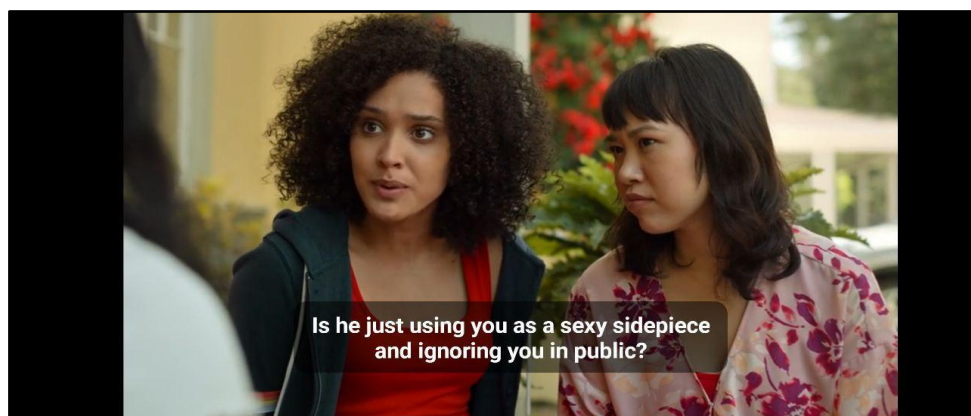
Derived from "Instagram" (often abbreviated as "Gram"), it conveys that an experience or event is worthy of being shared on social media platforms, reflecting the influence of digital culture on everyday language. By using "Gram-worthy," Ben acknowledges the role of social media in evaluating and sharing life experiences, indicating that the event is impressive enough to be highlighted on a platform where visual appeal and status are key.

By describing the NBA game experience as "Gram-worthy," Ben frames it as an exceptional and noteworthy event, enhancing its appeal and reinforcing its value within the context of social media. By labelling an experience as "Gram-worthy," Ben encourages his girlfriend and group to view it as a shareable moment, promoting the act of documenting and posting significant events on social media. This not only influences how they perceive the value of experiences but also how they engage with their social circles online. The slang term "Gram-worthy" serves a creative and innovative social function by adapting social media language to describe valuable real-life experiences. It reflects the influence of digital culture, elevates the perceived significance of events, and encourages sharing notable moments on social media.

Data 4 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 3

Time stamp: 18:14>>18:15

Character: Fabiola



Fabiola: "is he just using you as a sexy **sidepiece** and ignoring you in public?"

Table 4: Example of compounding 4

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
4.	sidepiece	Compounding Noun + Noun	Side + piece	Group Identity (to discuss extra relational affairs casually)	A secondary relationship or sexual partner

In the context where Devi's friend Fabiola asks about Devi's relationship with Paxton. The term "sidepiece" refers to a person who is romantically or sexually involved with someone who is already in a committed relationship, typically in a secretive or secondary role. By using this term, Fabiola is suggesting that Devi might be involved with Paxton in a less-than-official capacity, possibly as a secondary partner. The term carries connotations of secrecy, informality, and the complexity of romantic relationships, reflecting the social dynamics and gossip typical of high school environments. The use of "sidepiece" helps to define and reinforce group identity by establishing social norms and expectations about relationships within their peer group. It marks Devi's relationship with Paxton as potentially non-normative and positions her within a particular social framework. This labelling can affect how Devi is perceived by her peers and how she navigates her social interactions.

Data 5 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 7

Time stamp: 05:19>>05:22

Character: Devi



Devi: “so, what do you say we **crank** this party **up**...”

Table 5: Example of compounding 5

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
1.	Crank up	Compounding Verb + Adverb, Semantic Shift (Metaphorical Extension)	Crank (operate a machine) + Up (Adverb) Literal meaning: turning a crank to start something	Group solidarity (to describe excitement or enthusiasm)	To increase the intensity or going with enthusiasm or energy

In the context where Devi is trying to make up for her mistake to her friends to maintain their group bonding and ensure she does not lose her best friends, the social function of the term "crank up" becomes particularly significant. The term "crank up" is often used in informal and casual contexts. It conveys a relaxed and approachable tone, making conversations feel more spontaneous and less formal. It generally means to increase the intensity, volume, or level of something, such as turning up the volume of music or increasing the energy of an event or activity.

Language is a powerful tool for signalling group membership and identity. When someone uses the slang term "crank up," it indicates that they are part of a community that understands and appreciates contemporary, dynamic expressions. This use of language helps to mark the speaker as an insider within a particular social group, whether it's a circle of friends, a subculture, or a specific community. This insider status is crucial for social cohesion and mutual understanding. The shared use of slang terms like "crank up" creates a common linguistic ground that strengthens social bonds. When members of a group use the same slang, it fosters a sense of unity and camaraderie. This shared language serves as a social glue, reinforcing relationships and enhancing group solidarity. It also helps members feel more connected to one another, as they navigate and interpret the world through a shared linguistic framework.

By using the term "crank up," Devi demonstrates her familiarity with the group's vernacular, aligning herself with her friends' way of speaking. This shared language is crucial in reinforcing social bonds. In trying to make amends, Devi's use of such slang signals her desire to re-establish her place within the group and reaffirm their shared identity. It shows that she is still in tune with the group's dynamics and wants to remain an integral part of it.

4.1.2 Clipping

Slang often involves shortening words by clipping syllables or parts of them, typically omitting the final segment. In some cases, though less common, the initial morpheme may be shortened. Occasionally, both the beginning and final morphemes are omitted.

Data 1 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 2

Time stamp: 02:35>>02:37

Character: Devi



Devi: “No offense, but they're mostly **uggos**.”

Table 6: Example of clipping 1

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
1.	Uggo	Clipping + Suffixation -o	Ugly (clipped and modified) – ugg + Suffixation -o = Uggo + Suffixation -s (plural) = Uggos (someone or	In group communication (to insult someone’s appearance)	Unattractive or ugly people

			anything that is physically ugly)		
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Devi is telling her psychiatrist about her wish to date someone. She used the term "uggos" to characterize the psychiatrist's patients waiting outside the room. The word uggos is an example of a slang term. The slang term "uggo," a pejorative derivative from "ugly," serves as a vivid example of how slang functions to reinforce social hierarchies and group identities by leveraging negative connotations.

"Uggo" is employed within social groups to label individuals considered unattractive, thereby fostering a sense of in-group cohesion by creating a shared vocabulary that distinguishes the "in" group from those perceived as outsiders or less desirable. This term reflects the dynamics of social exclusion and judgement, often utilized in casual, informal contexts to assert dominance or convey group solidarity by denigrating those who do not conform to certain aesthetic or social standards. The use of "uggo" thus highlights the role of slang in expressing and reinforcing social attitudes, while simultaneously contributing to the construction of social identity by demarcating boundaries between different groups or individuals. By deploying such terms, speakers can navigate social interactions with a nuanced understanding of group norms and hierarchies, often employing these terms to foster camaraderie among members or to subtly critique and exclude others.

Ugly (clipped and modified) – ugg + Suffixation -o = Uggo + Suffixation -s (plural) =

Uggos (someone or anything that is physically ugly)

This uggos term, as researched using Matiello's theory to analyse the slang word formation process, would be classified as type Extra Grammatical formation cases, involving the formation of word or expression that do not adhere to the typical rules of word formation in language. The term 'Uggo' is combination of clipping and suffixation slang formation process, although the word 'uggo' has no meaning in standard English dictionaries. This term means "unattractive," hence it can be drawn. The closest conclusion is derived from

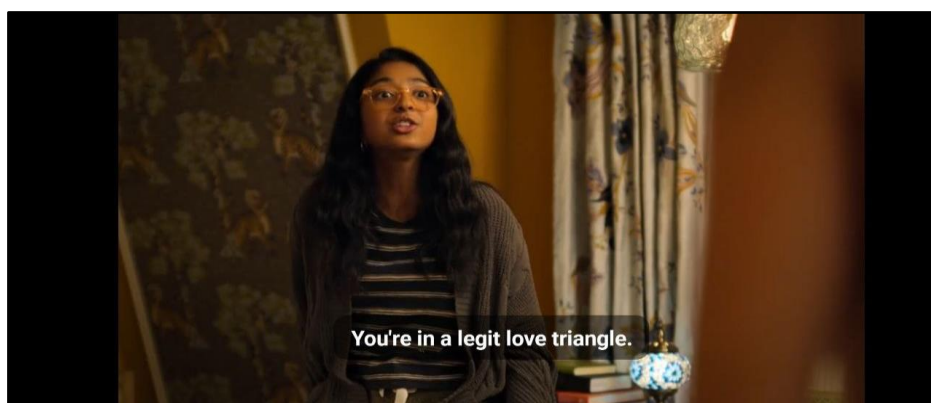
the root word ‘ugly,’ which begins with ‘ug,’ (clipping process) and adding the diminutive suffix ‘-o,’ (suffixation process).

The meaning of the term "uggo" is slang for someone or anything that is physically ugly. It is commonly used as a pejorative phrase to mock people's appearances. The term's origin is unclear, although it became popular in the early 2000s. However, given to its negative meaning, it has become somewhat divisive in the age of social media body positivity. The phrase uggo can be used to describe something as unsightly while also being harsh. Most people use it to describe unattractive people, but it can also refer to anything that is ugly, such as a dog, lamp, house, or pair of shoes. It can be used as a noun, for example, "you are an uggo.”.

Data 2 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 8

Time stamp: 15:33>>15:36

Character: Devi



Devi: “You’re in a legit love triangle.”

Table 7: Example of clipping 2

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
2.	Legit	Clipping + Semantic Shift	Base word: Legitimate = lawful, rightful Clipping: Legit = real, authentic, or genuinely complex	Creativity and innovation	Genuine or authentic

In the context where Devi uses the slang "legit" to describe Kamala's love triangle situation, the term showcases both clipping and semantic shift in its formation process. Kamala's situation involves being in the middle of an arranged marriage while also having a boyfriend, creating a complex and authentic romantic predicament. Devi's use of "legit" emphasizes the genuine complexity and reality of Kamala's situation.

Base word: Legitimate = lawful, rightful

Clipping: Legit = real, authentic, or genuinely complex

"Legit" originates from the word "legitimate," which traditionally means something that is lawful, rightful, or genuine. Clipping is a morphological process where a longer word is shortened while retaining its original meaning. In the case of "legit," the word "legitimate" is clipped. This means that the more formal, multisyllabic word is abbreviated to a shorter form, making it easier and quicker to use in casual speech. Through clipping, the longer word is shortened to "legit," simplifying its usage in casual conversations. Semantic shift occurs as the term's meaning evolves from its original sense of legality or authenticity to a more colloquial use, where "legit" denotes something that is real, authentic, or genuinely impressive. Semantic shift allows the word "legit" to take on a meaning that fits the context perfectly. By using "legit," Devi is not just saying that Kamala's situation is real; she is also implying that it is impressively or notably real, adding a layer of emphasis that enhances the description.

Data 3 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 7

Time stamp: 01:25>>01:27

Character: Devi



Devi: “Um, she’s kind of in an arranged marriage **sitch**.”

Table 8: Example of clipping 3

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
3.	Sitch	Clipping + Suffixation (-ch)	Base word: Situation (Clipped) = Sit + Suffix- Ch = Sitch	In group communication	Shortened of standard word situation

In the context where Devi, afraid that her secret about never dating Paxton will leak, dresses oddly. Trent, Paxton's friend, calls her, and she thinks she will get busted. However, Trent actually asks about her cousin Kamala, leading Devi to describe Kamala's arranged marriage. The term "sitch" facilitates quick and informal communication within a group. By abbreviating "situation" to "sitch," speakers can efficiently convey complex circumstances without lengthy explanations, promoting a sense of ease and familiarity in conversations.

One of the primary advantages of using "sitch" is its brevity. In fast-paced or casual conversations, especially among peers or within social groups that value efficiency, using an abbreviated term like "sitch" allows speakers to quickly convey what might otherwise require a more detailed explanation. This efficiency is particularly valuable in environments like schools or social gatherings where conversations can be rapid and varied. The use of slang terms like "sitch" fosters an informal and relaxed communication style. It

breaks down barriers that more formal language might create, making interactions feel more personal and direct. This informality helps to establish a sense of familiarity and camaraderie among speakers, reinforcing their social bonds. When Devi uses "sitch," she is not only describing a situation but also signaling her membership in a group that communicates in a laid-back and relatable manner.

4.1.3 Acronym or Abbreviation

Slang often involves abbreviations or acronyms that represent longer phrases or concepts. This process, also known as initialism, can be divided into two categories of acronyms. An acronym is created by combining the initial letters of several words, or in some cases, the component parts of a compound word.

Data 1 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 1

Time stamp: 12:20>>12:22

Character: Ben



Ben: “No. We call you the **UN**, because you are **unfuckable nerds**.”

Table 9: Example of acronym 1

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
1.	UN (yu-en)	Acronym	UN (a standard abbreviation for United Nation) >> UN (Shifted as abbreviation for Unfuckable Nerds)	Creativity and Innovation (to demean or insult a group)	Outsiders who do not meet the social or attractiveness standards.

In this context, Ben is Devi's schoolmate and rival; they often fight over scores in every subject at school. Ben keeps calling Devi and her friends "UN," which makes them think they are being called "UN" or "United Nations" because all of them are non-white. However, it turns out that Ben calls them "UN" as an abbreviation for "unfuckable nerds." The term "UN" serves to reinforce group boundaries by creating an "us vs. them" dynamic. Ben's use of this slang term clearly delineates his group from Devi's, marking Devi and her friends as outsiders who do not meet his social or attractiveness standards. This use of slang underscores the social stratification within the school environment. By labeling Devi and her friends as "unfuckable nerds," Ben effectively devalues them, reinforcing their lower status in the school's social hierarchy. This labeling is not just a personal insult but a social signal that communicates to others who belong to the "in" group and who is excluded. The term "UN" acts as a boundary marker, drawing a clear line between Ben's group, which is implicitly more attractive and socially superior, and Devi's group, which is deemed undesirable. This dynamic is a powerful example of how slang can be used to enforce social divisions, establish dominance, and maintain group cohesion through the exclusion and marginalization of others.

Data 2 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 8

Time stamp: 09:52>>09:55

Character: Devi



Devi: “Well, believe it, because I give zero F’s.”

Table 10: Example of acronym 2

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
2.	zero F	Acronym	F (is abbreviation from word Fuck)	Rebellion and Resistance	Don’t care or complete lack of concern and interest

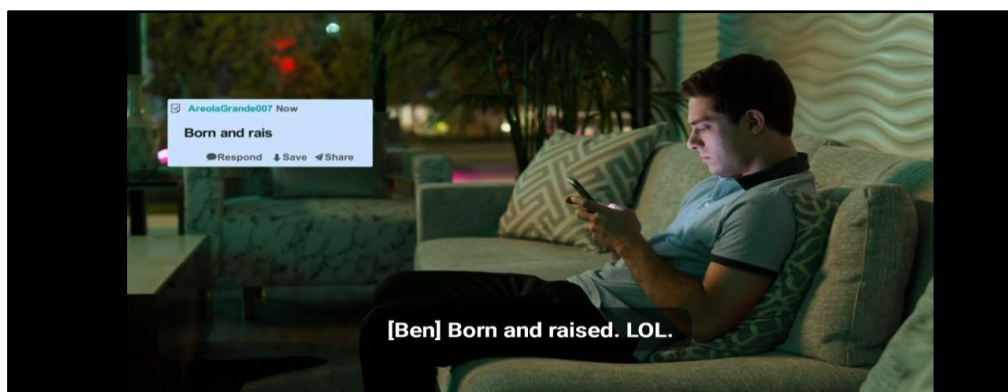
Devi uses the slang term "zero f's" in a situation where she encounters problems with her best friends but decides not to make up with them. Instead, she acts as if she doesn't care about their friendship anymore. By saying she gives "zero f's," Devi is actively resisting the social expectation that she should care about reconciling with her friends. This term signifies her defiance against the norms that dictate maintaining harmonious relationships. The term "zero f's" serves as a shield to protect Devi from appearing emotionally vulnerable.

By acting indifferent, she avoids exposing her hurt feelings or the impact of the falling out with her friends. This slang acts as a form of emotional armor. It allows Devi to put up a front that she is unaffected by the conflict, which helps her avoid the discomfort of being seen as emotionally fragile or hurt. By using this term, Devi maintains control over how others perceive her emotional state. It helps her manage the situation on her own terms, without giving her friends the satisfaction of knowing how deeply the conflict has affected her. By refusing to care about the conflict, Devi redefines her role within the group. She positions herself as someone who is not bound by the group's emotional ties or conflicts, thereby altering the power dynamics and social roles within the friendship.

Data 3 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 6

Time stamp: 13:34>>13:38

Character: Ben



Ben: “Born and raised. **LOL.**”

Table 11: Example of acronym 3

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
3.	LOL	Acronym	Laugh Out Loud = LOL (Acronym)	Group Identity (to convey humour)	stands for "laugh out loud"

Ben feels lonely because his plan to watch an NBA match with his dad got canceled due to his dad's schedule, leaving him with no one to accompany him to the match. However, on social media, he meets someone who shares a common interest with him, and he uses "LOL" as a response to a message. In the context provided, LOL (short for "laugh out loud") serves as an example of abbreviation or acronym.

"LOL" is formed through abbreviation, where a longer phrase "laugh out loud" is shortened to its initial letters. Originally, "LOL" stands for "laugh out loud," and in online communication, it is often used to indicate amusement, humour, or to acknowledge a message in a light-hearted way. The social function of "LOL" in this context is it serves as an expression of emotion, indicating that Ben finds the message amusing or is attempting to keep the conversation light-hearted despite his feelings of loneliness. Additionally, using "LOL" helps create a sense of camaraderie and connection with the person he is chatting with. This shows that Ben shares a similar sense of humour or finds the conversation enjoyable. By responding with "LOL," Ben signals that he is engaged and receptive to the

interaction, fostering a positive and friendly atmosphere. This can lead to a stronger bond and a feeling of mutual understanding, as humour and shared laughter often enhance social connections.

4.1.4 Semantic Shift

In the context of slang, semantic shifts often lead to the development of new, informal meanings that diverge from a word's original or traditional sense that through process metaphorical extension, broadening and narrowing.

Data 1 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 4

Time stamp: 04:21>>04:23

Character: Devi



Devi: “Whoa. He **loaded**.”

Mother: “Yes, he is.”

Table 12: Example of semantic shift 1

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
1.	Loaded	Semantic Shift (Metaphorical Extension)	Base word: Loaded = heavily weighted, filled, or burdened Shifted meaning: having a lot of money	In group communication	Wealthy or rich

In the context where Devi responds with "he's loaded" upon hearing that a man at the Ganesh festival is rich and provides educational counselling for Ivy League schools, the term "loaded" is used to convey a specific social function. Term slang, "loaded" is an informal term used to describe someone who is very wealthy or financially well-off. It emphasizes the significant amount of money or resources that a person possesses.

Devi's use of "he's loaded" serves to succinctly and informally indicate that the man is very wealthy. By using this slang term, Devi quickly communicates the man's financial status, aligning with the casual tone of the conversation. The term "loaded" adds emphasis to the man's wealth in a conversational manner. It highlights the significant amount of money he has without needing a more formal or detailed explanation. This informal expression makes the conversation more relatable and engaging. Devi's use of "loaded" reflects her familiarity with contemporary slang. It helps her align with her social group's informal language, reinforcing her connection with her peers who likely use similar expressions to discuss wealth and social status.

Data 2

Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 3

Time stamp: 02:30>>02:33

Character: Devi



Devi: “No. Our relationship is rock solid. **Don’t sweat it.**”

Table 13: Example of semantic shift 2

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
2.	Sweat	Semantic Shift (Metaphorical Extension)	Base word: Sweat (Noun) = excreted through the skin when someone is hot, nervous, or exercising Shifted meaning: to worry and to exert effort	Group solidarity (to reassure someone)	Worry

In the context where Devi uses "don't sweat it" to reassure her friends who are concerned that Paxton might be playing her by not introducing her as his girlfriend. This informal phrase means "don't worry" or "don't be concerned." It is used to reassure someone that a situation is not as problematic as it might seem or that they should not be anxious about it.

Devi uses "don't sweat it" to calm her friends' worries about her relationship with Paxton. By saying this, she aims to downplay their concerns and reassure them that there is no cause for alarm. This usage helps to alleviate any tension or anxiety her friends might feel regarding the situation. In this context, Devi uses "don't sweat it" to manage how her friends perceive the situation. Since she is trying to cover up the fact that she and Paxton are not romantically involved, the phrase helps to shift focus away from the reality of the situation, minimizing the perceived seriousness of the issue. By reassuring her friends with "don't sweat it," Devi is also working to maintain the cohesion and trust within her social circle. She wants to ensure that her friends remain supportive and do not become upset or disillusioned about her relationship status, thus preserving the stability of her friendships.

Data 3 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 1

Time stamp: 00:26>>00:28

Character: Devi



Devi: “I think we can all agree that last year **sucked.**”

Table 14: Example of semantic shift 3

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
3.	Sucked	Semantic Shift (Metaphorical Extension)	Base word: Sucked (past tense from suck) draw something into the mouth Meaning shifted to: To Be Bad or Unpleasant	Expression of Attitudes and Emotions (to convey dissatisfaction)	To Be Bad or Unpleasant or To Have a Bad Experience

In the context where Devi uses the slang term "sucked" during her prayer to express how bad the previous year was. The slang term "sucked" is used to express dissatisfaction or disappointment with something. It is an informal term used to describe something that was disappointing, unsatisfactory, or otherwise negative in experience or quality.

By using the slang term "sucked," Devi communicates a strong sense of dissatisfaction and disappointment regarding the past year. This informal, colloquial expression vividly conveys her negative emotions and reinforces the severity of her experiences. The term adds emphasis to Devi's feelings, making her emotional state more pronounced and relatable. It

conveys the depth of her discontent in a way that more formal language might not. Devi's use of "sucked" in her prayer demonstrates an informal, conversational tone with her god, suggesting a close, personal relationship. It reflects a level of intimacy and comfort in expressing her emotions in a casual manner. The use of slang in a sacred context such as prayer highlights a casual approach to communicating with her god. It suggests that Devi feels comfortable expressing her emotions in a way that mirrors everyday language and interactions.

Data 4 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 8

Time stamp: 01:46>>01:48

Character: Devi



Devi: “Cause these clothes are sick.”

Table 15: Example of semantic shift 4

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
4.	Sick	Semantic Shift (Metaphorical Extension)	Base word: Sick (Adjective) = unwell or ill Meaning shifted to: Amazing or Impressive	Expression of Attitudes and Emotions	Amazing or Impressive (positive connotation) Or Gross or Disgusting (negative connotation)

In the context where Devi uses the term "sick" to describe how cool the dress made by Paxton's sister is. In contemporary slang, the term "sick" means something that is impressive,

outstanding, or exceptionally good. It is often used to express strong admiration or approval. When Devi uses "sick" to describe the dress, she is expressing a strong, positive reaction. This term amplifies her appreciation and admiration, signalling that the dress is not just good, but exceptionally remarkable. It conveys enthusiasm and a high level of satisfaction that goes beyond simple praise. The term "sick" adds an emotional intensity to Devi's compliment. It's a way of saying that the dress exceeds her expectations and is extraordinary in its design or impact. The word choice underscores how much Devi values the dress, highlighting its unique appeal or stylishness. By using contemporary slang like "sick," Devi is engaging in a form of group communication that helps build rapport and camaraderie with her peers. This slang term is part of the shared language among her friends and peers, making her comment relatable and reinforcing social connections.

4.1.5 Reduplicative

Slang words may be formed through the repetition of sounds or syllables.

Data 1 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 7

Time stamp: 07:27>>07:30

Character: Devi



Devi: "Why not give her the old razzle-dazzle?"

Table 16: Example of reduplicative

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
1.	razzle-dazzle	Reduplicative (rhyming reduplicative)	Base Word: Razzle Reduplicated Form: Dazzle Difference only in the initial (R-D)	Creativity and Innovation (to describe showy behaviour)	To impress or extravagant

Devi uses the term "razzle-dazzle" when advising Eleanor's mom on how to make up for her lie about going abroad and working as an actress on a cruise. The term "razzle-dazzle" is employed creatively to convey the idea of adding flair or charm to a situation. This makes the process of making amends feel more dynamic and less mundane, appealing to both the emotional and visual senses of those involved. "Razzle-dazzle" is formed through reduplication and fanciful formation.

Base Word: "Razzle"

Reduplicated Form: "Dazzle"

Reduplication is a morphological process where a word or part of a word is repeated, often with a slight change, to create a new term. In the case of "razzle-dazzle," the process involves repeating a similar-sounding sequence to form a catchy and memorable phrase. This occurs when a word or part of a word is repeated with a change in the initial consonant or vowel, creating a rhyming effect. In "razzle-dazzle," the two parts of the word rhyme with each other, with "razzle" and "dazzle" differing only in their initial consonants ("r" and "d"). Fanciful formation involves creating a new term with a playful or imaginative quality, often without a direct or literal connection to existing words. Combining these elements, "razzle-dazzle" effectively captures the notion of an impressive, showy effort to enhance or rectify a situation. The repetition of similar sounds in "razzle" and "dazzle" creates a rhythmic and playful effect, making the term more engaging and easier to remember.

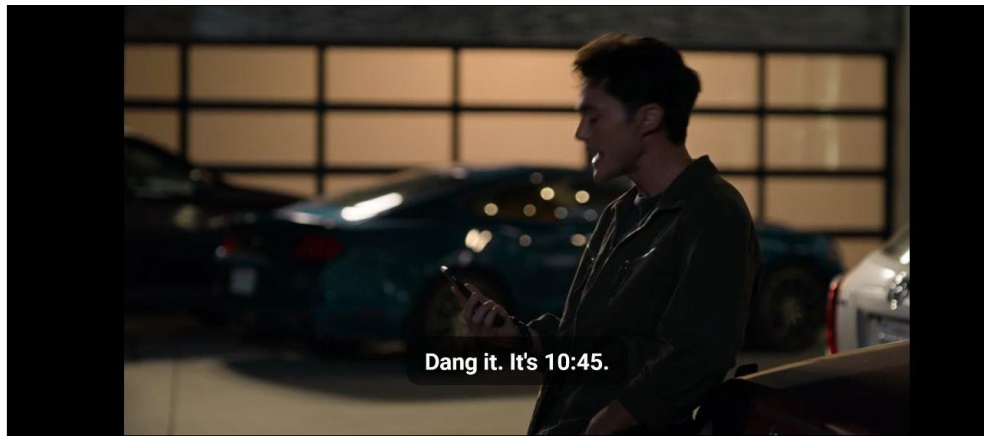
4.1.6 Variation

Variation involves altering a word or phrase slightly to create a new term or convey a specific meaning within a particular group or context.

Data 1 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 8

Time stamp: 24:29>>24:32

Character: Paxton



Paxton: “Dang it. It’s 10:45.”

Table 17: Example of variation

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
1.	Dang	Variation	Base word: Damn (An exclamation of frustration or disappointment.) Varied Form: Dang (It retains the essence of expressing mild frustration or surprise but in a less offensive manner, making it suitable for casual, everyday use.)	Expression of Attitudes and Emotions (to express mild anger or annoyance)	Expression of mild frustration

In the context where Paxton uses the slang "dang it" to lessen the awkwardness between him and Devi, as Devi mentions she needs to be home before 11, the term "dang it" serves

as an informal exclamation. It's a milder, more socially acceptable alternative to stronger expletives.

Variation is a linguistic process involving modifying an existing word or phrase to create a new form that often carries a softer, less intense connotation or less offensive version. "Dang it" is a result of the variation process. In this case, "dang it" is a variation of the stronger expletive "damn it." Variation allows the speaker to maintain the original phrase's expressive power while making it more appropriate for informal or polite conversation.

Original Phrase : Damn it (An exclamation of frustration or disappointment.)

Varied Form : Dang it (It retains the essence of expressing mild frustration or surprise but in a less offensive manner, making it suitable for casual, everyday use.)

The slang "dang it" retains the essence of expressing frustration or mild disappointment, but it does so in a way that is less likely to offend. This makes it particularly useful in casual, everyday interactions where maintaining a friendly and comfortable atmosphere is important. "Dang" is a euphemism for "damn," which itself is derived from the Latin word "damnare," meaning to condemn or inflict loss upon. The use of euphemisms like "dang" can be traced back to the early 19th century in American English. It reflects cultural and social norms where swearing and overt profanity were discouraged, especially in more conservative or polite society.

4.1.7 Prefixation

Prefixation involves adding a morpheme, typically at the beginning of a word, to create a new word or modify the meaning of the original word.

Data 1 Never Have I Ever Season 1 Ep. 1

Time stamp: 00:21>>00:22

Character: Devi



Devi: “What's a-poppin'?”

Table 18: Example of prefixaton

No.	Slang Word	Type of Slang Formation	Slang Formation process	Social Function of Slang	Meaning
1.	a-poppin'?	Affixation (Prefixing a-) + Variation	Prefix a- + poppin' (variation from standard word popping)	Group Identity	Something lively or active

In the context where Devi says "What's a poppin'?" while praying to her god, the slang term takes on a unique social function by blending casual, contemporary language with a traditionally solemn act. By using such an informal and trendy greeting in her prayer, Devi expresses her personal identity and individuality. It showcases her personality, which is youthful, modern, and perhaps irreverent. This use of slang underscores her unique approach to spirituality, blending her everyday language with her spiritual practice.

Using the term "What's a-poppin'?" to greet God in a prayer would introduce a highly informal and playful tone to a traditionally solemn and respectful context. The slang "What's a-poppin'?" means "What's happening?" or "What's going on?" and is a casual way of asking someone about their current activities or state of being. Employing this phrase in a prayer could reflect a personal and intimate relationship with the divine, emphasizing approachability and relatability. "What's a poppin'?" as a slang term is associated with specific demographic, often younger generations who are immersed in contemporary

culture. By incorporating this term into her prayer, Devi aligns herself with this demographic, illustrating how modern influences permeate various aspects of life, including spirituality. This innovative approach underscores the flexibility of language and the varied ways people seek to connect with higher powers in a manner that feels authentic and meaningful to them.

4.2 Discussion

The analysis revealed that 8 different types of slang word formation processes were identified from 16 processes found in Season 1 of the Netflix series *Never Have I Ever*. These processes include compounding, clipping, acronyms or abbreviations, semantic shift, reduplicative formation, variation, affixation, and fanciful formation. Additionally, the data was categorized into 6 distinct social functions.

Table 19: Total data finding of slang word formation process

No.	Word Formation Process	Frequency	Percentage
1	Compounding	7	13.2%
2	Clipping	10	18.9%
3	Acronym or Abbreviation	4	7.5%
4	Semantic Shift	27	50.9%
5	Reduplicative	1	1.9%
6	Variation	1	1.9%
7	Prefixation	1	1.9%
8	Fanciful Formation	2	3.8%
	Total	53	100%

Based on the data in the table of slang word formation processes, it was found that there are a total of 53 slang terms from the Netflix series *Never Have I Ever* Season 1. Using Mattiello's theory, these terms were categorized into 8 slang word formation processes with

percentage: 13.2% compounding, 18.9% clipping, 7.5% acronyms or abbreviations, 50.9% semantic shift, 1.9% reduplicative formation, 1.9% variation, 1.9% prefixation, and 3.8% fanciful formation. However, out of the 53 terms, only 8 slang word formation processes were identified, and 7 other processes were not found in the characters' utterances in the series, such as blending, infixation, back formation, conversion, word manufacture, final combination, and reverse formation.

Table 20: Total data finding of slang social function

No.	Social Function	Frequency	Percentage
1	Group Identity	8	15.1%
2	In-group Communication	10	18.9%
3	Group Solidarity	2	3.8%
4	Expression of Attitudes and Emotions	15	28.3%
5	Rebellion and Resistance	6	11.3%
6	Creativity and Innovation	12	22.6%
	Total	53	100%

Based on the data found in the Netflix series *Never Have I Ever* season 1, 53 terms were analyzed and categorized into 6 social function categories of slang words. The results identified the following categories: 15.1% group identity, 18.9% in-group communication, 3.8% group solidarity, 28.3% expression of attitudes and emotions, 11.3% rebellion and resistance, and 22.6% creativity and innovation.