

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This part presents the introduction. It covers the background of the study, the research question, the objective of the study, the significances of the study and the organization of the thesis.

### **A. Background of the Study**

Language is the most important aspect in the life all of beings. As people in this world we need language for improving the language of our life. One of the languages is English. In this era, English is a global language that must be mastered by everyone, because from mastering English we will get more information about the world or even if we want to study abroad. Language is not only learned in general, but also many languages are discussed in linguistics.

As we have seen that linguistics had various branches of discussion, ranging from phonetics as the smallest branch to discourse analysis as the largest linguistic unit and various linguistic applications in other fields. One of them is sociolinguistics. The language used in the community and its complexity is the subject of sociolinguistic studies.

Based on Holmes (2000: 1) "Sociolinguistics is concerned with the relationship between language and the context in which it is used." It means that Sociolinguists 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. People who are belonging to the same social group-of the same trade, profession, hobby, age, or social position-tend to behave in the same way. This behavior influences not only the clothes they wear, but also the language they use. The language of a social group is one of the several forms of behavior that keeps the ground distinct from other group.

Related to the use of language in the community, this will lead to a variety of languages. Variations in the language can be caused due to the type of activities carried out, media delivery, or conversation situations. There are many variations of language that develop in society, in which variation can be based on user variance and variations in usage. There are also variations in language based on geography, gender, type of work, and so on. One of the variations of language that appears in society is the variation of slang language.

Slang is more typically used among those who are outside established higher-status groups. Slang or Colloquial Speech describes words or phrases that are used instead of more everyday terms among younger speakers and other groups with special interests. (Yule, 2006: 211).

Based on Keraf (1980: 108) slang words are informal non-standard words, arranged in a typical, powerful and humorous or ordinary words that are changed arbitrarily which are used in a conversation. Sometimes, slang words are generated from unintentional pronunciation or changes in ordinary words to produce a new meaning. Furthermore, he says that slang language is not an

official language or it is informal language, although it is widely used for oral communication in many purposes, as many words quickly become outdated and absolute because of trends. There is no formal classification in slang language, except that it is a subclass of the language.

We usually find slang language in a community conversation and literary works such as in movie. We often hear slang from black people living in American. American is popular with its slang language. We can find them in Hollywood movies. Simplification of the characteristics in the movie is one way to use slang so that the film produced is not monotonous or not boring to the audience. Sometimes, there are some people that could not understand the meaning of slang language or do not understand how the slang languages are formed in movie. One of the popular movies, which does not belong to Hollywood movies, is noticed using slang language. The movie is Harry Potter which is originally produced by British people. Not many people know that the conversation in the film also use the slang language which we rarely meet even heard from British movies.

Harry Potter is a series of seven fantasy novels written by British writer J. K. Rowling. This novel tells the story of the adventures of a teenage wizard named Harry Potter and his best friends, Ronald Bilius Weasley and Hermione Jane Granger, who are students at the Hogwarts School of Magic. The core story in these novels centers on Harry's attempt to defeat the evil black wizard Lord Voldemort, who has the ambition to become an immortal being, conquer the

world of magic, control non-magicians, and destroy anyone who blocks his path, especially Harry Potter.

Harry Potter and Philosopher's Stone films are serial films adapted from J. K Rowling's first novel. On June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1997, this series has big popularity, critical praise and success worldwide. Although, some critics make negative criticisms, mainly because of the dark theme. Despite negative criticism, this problem does not reduce the sales chart. Until July 2013, this series has sold around 450 million copies throughout the world, translated by more than 73 languages. Therefore, this series became the best-selling of all time and set the record as the fastest selling book in history.

Besides the novel, this Harry Potter and Philosopher's Stone film became one of the most successful and best fantasy adventure films in the world. This film also contributes to the success of the next Harry Potter movie or the next series. This series also received a 7.4 branch on the IMDb site and 80% on the Rotten Tomatoes site. Another feature of this series is that this series has different titles in various countries. Original titles from this series are "Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone". While the United States, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India are known as "Harry Potter and Sorcerer's Stone". This is due to concerns of Americans who do not know the meaning of the word "Philosopher's" itself.

So far, the research that discusses about slang language usually uses data from American movies. A research from Ratna Perwita Sari (2010), entitled "An

Analysis of Slang language Types in *Rush Hour 2* Movie” is one of the example. She analyzed the slang language from a movie script in which conversation uses an American accent. Meanwhile Siti Nia Mahnunik (2015), entitled “An Analysis of Slang Language in Song Lyrics Used by *Justin Bieber*”, she also analyzed the slang language from song lyrics by Justin Bieber song but the analysis only focuses on two songs that is *Bigga* and *Eenie Meenie* song.

Based on the background above, the writer is very interested to analyze slang words based on word formation using movie script data in the *Harry Potter and Philosopher's Stone* (2001), movie from the United Kingdom or using the British language style. This research analyzed the types of slang used in this movie and also identifies how these words can be formed. The writer uses George Yule's theory about slang word formation to analyze the data.

## **B. Research Question**

Based on the problem found in the background of the study above, the research question is: How is the slang language formed in “*Harry Potter and Philosopher's Stone*” (2001)?

## **C. Definition of the Key Terms**

To give a clear description and to avoid misunderstanding the key terms used in this research are explained as follows:

### 1. Slang language

Based on Gorys Keraf (1980: 108), slang words are informal non-standard words, arranged in a typical, powerful and humorous or ordinary

words that are changed arbitrarily which are used in a conversation. Sometimes, slang words are generated from unintentional pronunciation or changes in ordinary words to produce a new meaning.

From the explanation above that slang is street language or the language used in certain groups whose language is usually understood only by the group. Slang is often used by young people.

## 2. Word formations

According to George Yule (2010: 20), word formation is “the study of original forms or the study of the origins and histories of words or the study of insects”. Based on the explanation, word formation is the basis for forming a word that creates a certain meaning.

## 3. Harry Potter and Philosopher’s Stone Movie

*Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* is a 2001 fantasy film directed by Chris Columbus and distributed by Warner Bros Pictures. It is based on J. K. Rowling's 1997 novel of the same name. The film is the first installment in the long-running Harry Potter film series and the script was written by Steve Kloves and produced by David Heyman. Its story follows Harry Potter's first year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry as he was discovered as a famous wizard when beginning his education. The film stars Daniel Radcliffe as Harry Potter, with Rupert Grint as Ron Weasley, and Emma Watson as Hermione Granger.

#### **D. Objective of the Study**

The objective of study is to find the formation of the slang language as found in movie script “*Harry Potter and Philosopher’s Stone*” (2001).

#### **E. Significances of the Study**

The result of this study intended to give contribution to three aspects of education, as follows:

##### 1. Theoretically

This result of this study is expected to be a reference to other researchers or writers who want to study slang language, especially British slang language.

##### 2. Practically

Practically, there are two significances of the study, as follows:

###### 1) For the Writer

The result of this study is expected to help the writer’s to know more about slang language, especially British slang language.

###### 2) For the Reader

The result of this study is expected to inform the reader to know more the word formation as the slang language by George Yule, especially British slang language.

##### 3. Pedagogically

The result of this study is expected to give reference to the academic field, especially English language area.

**F. Organization of the Thesis**

In this study, the researcher presents the thesis into five chapters to create systematic writing. Chapter I is introduction involves such as background of the study, research question, definition of the key terms, objective of the study, and organization of the thesis. Chapter II is review of related literature involves such as theoretical study, previous studies, and theoretical framework. Chapter III is method of investigation involves such as research design, source of data, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis. Chapter IV is findings and interpretation. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestions.