

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Slang words were a popular and effective instrument used by songwriters to connect with their audience, elicit feelings, and represent the language and culture of the present. Slang was informal terms or expressions that were commonly used and understood within a certain group or community but were not considered to be part of the standard language. Slang might provide song lyrics authenticity, relatability, and a sense of relevancy when it was included in the lyrics.

Ni Kadek Mega (2022) states that Singers and songwriters use slang words to give some characteristics to their songs. They used slang as an expression of togetherness. By using slang, they wanted to identify themselves as members of a group that was different from others in the society. One of the popular singers who use slang words in her song lyrics is Katy Perry.

Released on August 24, 2010, "Teenage Dream" was American singer-songwriter Katy Perry's third studio album. The album was a huge financial success and was essential in making Katy Perry as one of the top pop performers of her generation.

The themes of "Teenage Dream" center on teenage love, nostalgia, and the carefree attitude of youth. "Teenage Dream," the album's lead single, establishes the mood by lauding the pleasure and thrill of first love. Katy Perry examines the highs and lows of love, relationships, and self-discovery during the adolescent and young adult years throughout the whole album.

The very popular and significant pop album "Teenage Dream" perfectly encapsulated adolescence's energy and the essence of youthful love. It was a pivotal moment in Katy Perry's musical career because of the catchy melodies, relatable themes, and her magnetic stage presence that helped it gain international success and critical praise.

The "Teenage Dream" album by Katy Perry was well received both internationally and in Indonesia. With its contagious pop sound and universally accessible themes, "Teenage Dream" became a worldwide success. The record enjoyed enormous financial success, garnered favorable reviews, and won multiple awards.

The album's singles dominated the charts all over the world, scoring several number-one hits in different nations. Songs like "California Gurls," "Teenage Dream," "Firework," and "E.T." became summer anthems and received a ton of radio play on stations and music networks throughout the world.

The album's success catapulted Katy Perry to popularity on a global scale and cemented her place as one of the top pop performers of her era. Additionally, it gave her the chance to start lucrative concert tours and provide performances abroad.

In Indonesia, where Katy Perry has a sizable fan base, "Teenage Dream" did well. The hits from the album gained a lot of radio play on Indonesian stations, while the music videos received millions of views on websites like YouTube.

Teenagers and young adults in Indonesia, in particular, were drawn to the album's lively and uplifting songs. Katy Perry became a well-known and adored

personality in the Indonesian music scene thanks to the accessible themes of love, young enthusiasm, and self-discovery. Additionally, as part of her globe tour, Katy Perry performed live in Indonesia to sizable audiences and ecstatic reactions from her fans there.

The album's success in Indonesia led to Katy Perry's continued presence in the nation's music industry and to the continued appeal of Western pop music to Indonesian audiences. Overall, "Teenage Dream" had a profound effect on the world's music business and was well received by listeners everywhere, especially in Indonesia. One of the best albums of the early 2010s, it gained recognition for it was infectious pop sound, accessible themes, and charming front woman Katy Perry.

The lyrics of numerous songs on Katy Perry's album "Teenage Dream" have ties to slang words. Slang words may add authenticity, attractiveness, and relevancy to songs, as previously said, especially among teens and young adults. Here were some instances of the associations between slang phrases and songs from the "Teenage Dream" album:

In the song "California Gurls," the slang phrase "gurls" was used instead of the word "girls," which was a unique decision that conveys an informal, casual, and cool mindset. "Last Friday Night (T.G.I.F.)" was a song which makes use of the slang words "T.G.I.F.," which stands for "Thank God It's Friday," a saying that was frequently used to take pleasure in the weekend and the excitement of Friday night.

The word "got away" was used to describe someone who was once an important part of someone's life but the connection ended in the song "The One That Got Away." The expression was frequently used in romantic circumstances to describe a person who has passed away.

Social Being utilize language as a tool to communicate with one another. The used of language was a form of communication. In daily conversation, casual language was frequently used. A language that was not considered to be a standard language was called informal language. In daily conversation, speaker usually used slang word to speak with friends or someone who was younger than the speaker

Generally, Namvar (2014) defined slang words usually used in highly informal and expressions that were not considered standard in the speaker's dialect or language. Slang was very often bordered within particular territory or group. In Indonesia, slang referred to as *Bahasa Gaul*, Budiasa (2021) adds that these language mainly used by young people when communicating within groups. Although many adults see it as "youth language", the variables were more complex than that. Namvar (2014) adds that slang was an integral part which consists style or expression, specific cultural transmission, and simplification of words.

Above explanation tells that a group of society could make a language may vary from time to time. Slang Words or Word Formation might be a scientific study of these slang words that appears daily in society, including our own. The slang commonly purpose in society to identify members of group, to make

informality, or even to oppose the authority. At least there were three functions of slang according to Zhou and Fan (2013). They were pursuit of self-identity, emotive feeling of the slang users, and achieving politeness, indicating that slang has been a major part in constructing language in a society. In addition, Yule (2010) states that slang differs from jargon, same purpose, but one specified in an area of work or interest while the other one was to make an identity of a group or more.

Songs have been a part of society since the beginning of time. Through song, meaning can be interpreted in the same or different ways. Any other individual activities, especially these performances, were considered as the most typical in the entire world. Fornas (2003) differs words and music were two different symbols. Although the fact that they were largely similar as human ways of expression or ways of communication, music was a universal language.

Speaking of music, Thompson and Russo (2004) state that there was a strong and deep relationship between melody and lyrics in songs. Song's associations with speech have also influenced their melodic and rhythmic elements. According to Juslin and Laukka (2004), one of the most frequently claimed benefits of listening to music was that it evokes powerful feelings. Shen (2009) also notes that music have been amusing companions for people for as least as long as we can remember.

A little example of the slang words used in *California Gurls* song's by Katy Perry in "Teenage Dream" Album, the slang words occur in many verses. For Example.

California Gurls :

*Kiss her, touch her, squeeze her buns
The girl's a freak, she drives a **Jeep** and live on a beach
I'm okay, I won't play*

The example above was a part of *California Gurls* song lyric, **Jeep** was a new word, and it was identified as a brand of a car. The word *she drives a Jeep and live on a beach* means that she drives a car and live on a beach. But the singer put the specific brand which was the writer identified as a new word, especially for the replacement of a car.

Part of Me :

*Throw your sticks and your stones
Throw your **Bombs** and your blows*

This was a part of *Part of Me* song lyrics, which also identified as the second example of *Coinage* type of slang words. The writer put **Bombs** as *Coinage* because bombs did not actually exist until that explosive device invented. Interestingly, the word **Bombs** also the new word that came up with it was sound, another example of this was **Sip, Meow, and Roar**.

The One That Got Away :

*Summer after highschool, when we first met
We'd make out in your **Mustang** to **Radiohead**
On my eighteenth birthday we got matching tatoos*

Both words **Mustang** and **Radiohead** were the *Coinage* type, the indication showed from the meaning of a car brand and a name of a Rock Band. So the sentence *We'd make out in your Mustang to Radiohead* means that we would make out in the Car and listen to a Rock Music.

Based to the explanation above, it was properly interesting to understand how word formation or slang words may be learned through Yule's (2010)

application of his theory of slang words or word creation to the five songs from *Katy Perry's* song album. The slang of the lyrics can be an indication of cultural behaviour in that recent years since language and culture can not be separated. Thus, These song lyrics has been analyzed through slang words classification.

B. Problems of the Study

Based on the explanation above, the problems of the study were formulated as follow.

1. What were the types of slang words in *Katy Perry's* song lyrics?
2. How were the types of slang words realized in *Katy Perry's* song lyrics?

C. Objectives of the Study

In analyzing the slang word formation, the objectives of the study discussed as follow.

1. To describe the types of slang words that used *Katy Perry's* song lyrics.
2. To describe the realization of the types in *Katy Perry's* song lyrics.

D. Scope of the Study

In this study, the writer focused only on 5 song lyrics of one album called *Teenage Dream* in the year 2010 of *Katy Perry*. By using Yule (2010) slang theory, the songs were *California Gurls*, *Firework*, *Last Friday Night (TGIF)*, *Part of Me*, and *The One That Got Away*. These song lyrics was hit in released years album that later combined in 2010 named *Teenage Dream*. This was why

the writer analyzed these hits because the representation of each song through the years. Thus, she analyzed one by one to gain the data regarding of the slang words in the lyrics.

E. Significance of the Study

The findings of this research are expected to be both theoretically and practically beneficial.

1. Theoretically, The finding will lead to further hypotheses of slang phrases, particularly when applied to song lyrics.
2. Practically, The readers were able to understand how song lyrics may be analyzed using slang word formation. For learners, more examples of slang words and word formation in society can be found from context and circumstance. Additionally, it could serve as a resource for future researchers who are intrested in investigasting the study of slang words in literary works, such as songs.