

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides an overview of background of the study, research questions, objectives of study, previous study and writing organization.

1.1. Background of the Study

The television series *13 Reasons Why* was written by Jay Asher and produced by Brian Yorkey. The series has received a a lot of attention as a result of its serious subject matter, which includes suicide, sexual assault, bullying, and mental health concerns among teenagers.

Clay Jensen, the main protagonist of the show, is the first one to make a move to identify who is guilty behind Hannah Baker's suicide as he receives a random box that has a variety of cassette tapes inside of it. The box also has a note from Hannah in which she explains why she took her own life. These recordings include Hannah's explanations of why she took her own life and each tape explains about different character's involvement in Hannah's suicide, mainly the teen characters such as Jessica Davis, Alex Standall, Justin Foley, Bryce Walker, Zach Dempsey, Marcus Cooley, Tyler Down, Montgomery de la Cruz, and Courtney Crimsen.

The characters in this series are all high school teenagers as the setting took place in a high school environment, that's why it stands out for its portrayal of the language the characters use, especially the slang terms used as their daily

interactions. Thus, the writer used Allan and Burridge (2006) theory to identify the types and functions of slang terms that the teen characters used.

In addition, according to Tavis and Mitu (2004), language effectively influences mental health since the words people choose could affect their emotional state and overall psychological well-being. Thus, it is interesting to analyse slang words used by the teen characters based on social factors because it's not only useful for gaining new knowledge about slang words in the linguistics field, but it also provides awareness of choosing the right words to prevent being offensive or triggering to another person that can lead to a mental issue problem. In this case, the writer used Holmes (2013) social factor theory to analyse the slang used by the teen characters.

1.2. Research Questions

From the background provided, this study aims to address the following research questions:

1. What are the types of slang words in *13 Reasons Why* season 1?
2. What are the functions of slang words in *13 Reasons Why* season 1?
3. What are the social factors of using slang words by the characters in *13 Reasons Why* season 1?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

In analysing the topic, the objectives of the study are:

1. To identify the types of slang words that are uttered by the characters in *13 Reasons Why* season 1.
2. To analyse the functions of slang words according to the classified type of utterances in *13 Reasons Why* season 1.
3. To analyse what social factors are influencing the characters in *13 Reasons Why* season 1 to use slang words.

1.4. Previous Study

There are 10 studies that discuss the theory of slang words in different objects. The previous studies is explained briefly in chronological order from studies that used Allan and Burrige (2006) theory followed by studies that employed other theories of slang.

The first study is *An Analysis Of Slang Words Used In The Social Network Movie* by Khoiriah (2021). Khoiriah's study on slang words in a social network movie combines Allan and Burrige's slang function theory with Yule's word formation theory. The study reveals five functions of slang words: to address, initiate relaxed conversation, humiliate, form an intimate atmosphere, and reveal anger. The most common function is to initiate relaxed conversation, with ten slang words: *gotta, gonna, gimmie, what's up, goin', outta, hang on, bong hit, talkin, and dorm.*

The second study is *An Analysis Of Slang Words Used In “Toy Story 4” Movie Script* by Selviana (2021). Selviana used a descriptive qualitative method and Allan and Burrige (2006) theory to analyze slang types and functions. After analyzing 126 data, she found that fresh and creative slang was the highest type, compounding slang was the lowest, and intimacy was the dominant function.

The third study is *Types of slang found in Raya and The Last Dragon Movie Series 2021 by Walt Disney* by Putra and Winarta (2022). They found that characters often change regular English words into new vocabulary, demonstrating a close relationship. They used the Allan and Burrige (2006) theory and qualitative method, identifying three types of slang: fresh and creative, imitative, flippant, and clipping. No data was found for acronyms.

The fourth study is *Analysis of slang words used by main character in “Senior Year” movie* by Putri et al. (2023). Their study analyzes slang words used by the main character in the movie *Senior Year* using Allan and Burrige’s (2006) theory and Holmes’ (2013) social factors theory. Results show fresh and creative slang is most common, with 36.4% of slang being fresh and creative.

The fifth study is *In An Analysis Of Slang Words Used In Clueless Movie* by Maharani (2023). Maharani used descriptive qualitative method in this research, and a few theories to analyse the types and functions of slang, based on her study, she used Allan and Burrige (2006), Holmes (2013), and Zhou and Fan (2013) theory. After working on the research, Maharani found types of slang words in *Clueless* movie, such as fresh and creative, flippant, imitative, acronym, and clipping.

The sixth study is *Slangs Used in The Movie "Lady Bird"* by Oktaviani and Agung (2023). They used Allan and Burridge's (2006) theory to analyze types and meanings. They used qualitative methods, data collection, and observation. Results revealed 33 slang words, 21 fresh and creative, 9 flippant, and 3 imitative, with 21 categorized as creative.

Next, Sari (2024) used slang words theory in *The Analysis Of Slang In Turning Red (2022) Movie*. Sari used Allan and Burridge's slang words theory. She found 50 data types and functions, with fresh and creative being the most common. The movie's genre is animation, starring teenagers, and slang consists of five types: compounding, imitative, fresh and creative, acronym, and clipping.

Then, Munthe et al. (2023) analysed slang words in *It* movie with the journal title *An analysis of slang words in IT movie*. They analysed slang words in the *IT movie* using Partridge's theory, specifically societal and public house slang. They found six functions for slang: addressing, creating intimacy, initiating conversation, revealing anger, humiliating, and demonstrating intimacy.

Another study is *Slangs in Captain Marvel Movie Dialogues* by Che-useng (2023). Che-useng identified two types: public house slang, used by communities, and society slang, commonly used in daily speech. The movie contains 2 public house slangs and 9 society slangs. Public house slang includes *baby* and *buddy*, while society slang includes *gonna*, *gotta*, *guy*, *wanta*, *shit*, *what the hell*, *yeah*, and *ain't*.

Last study is *An analysis of slang words in the Basketball Diaries movie* by Fitriani et al. (2024). They used Chapman (1987) theory that has two kinds of slang

words, namely primary slang and secondary slang. They obtained 63 primary slang and 39 secondary slang, and the meanings of them are calls to action, insulting words, expressing opinions, mentioning drugs, and describing a person's character.

The writer can conclude from the existence of previous studies that this study is not the first study about slang phrases specifically applying Allan and Burrige (2006) theory to analyze movies as the object. However, the writer also applies the analysis of social factors using Holmes (2013) theory, for which there is no prior study that applies the theory to this television series.

1.5. Scope of the Study

The study only focused on the slang words used by the teen characters in *13 Reasons Why* that relates with mental health. The writer used Allan and Burrige (2006) theory to classify the types and analyse the functions of slang words and Holmes (2013) theory to analyse the social factors.

1.6. Writing Organization

Four chapters will be included in this study, and the arrangement is:

Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter contains background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, previous study, scope of the study, and writing organization.

Chapter 2: Theory and Method

This chapter explains the theory used by the writer to analyse the data, which consists of types, functions, and social factors of slang words. In addition, this

chapter also contains the research method, such as the type of research, data and data source as well as the methods of collecting and analysing data.

Chapter 3: Result and Discussion

This chapter shows the findings of the study, which are the data of slang word types and the analysis of the functions and social factors of slang words.

Chapter 4: Conclusions

This chapter summarizes the study and gives recommendations.