# SLANG LEXICON BY GENERATION Z IN THE UNIVERSITY OF JEMBER

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# ABSTRACT

This article aims to describe the characteristics of the slang lexicon by Generation Z in University of Jember (UNEJ) Indonesia based on the abbreviation process, phonological process, and meaning change process as well as to describe the social function and factors that influence the use of slang by Generation Z in UNEJ. This article is motivated by the rampant use of slang by UNEJ students in daily communication among peers. The method used in this article is a descriptive qualitative method using the listening method to obtain article data. The result of this article can be concluded that the slang lexicon used by Generation Z in UNEJ is formed due to the abbreviation process, phonological process, and meaning change process. The source of the slang lexicon comes from several languages, namely Indonesian, regional languages, and foreign languages. The use of slang lexicon by Generation Z has various functions, including familiarizing themselves, smoothing words, keeping something secret, creating an atmosphere of humor, satirizing, and expressing feelings. Environmental factors are the main factors that influence Generation Z in using slang lexicon, and peer influence plays an important role in the formation and use of slang lexicon.

Keywords: slang, sociolinguistics, lexicon, generation Z

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

The development of information and communication technology has changed the way humans interact and communicate. This technology not only facilitates faster and wider communication, but has also led to the formation of various social networks and new social groups. Each social group formed in this network gives rise to variations of language with their own linguistic characteristics (Wardhaugh and Fuller, 2015:8; Sariono, Kusnadi, Rochiyati, Muji, 2023:60). As a means of communication, language is used by people to work together with others, to form groups, and even to form a larger community for the common good. Language is used to convey the thoughts or opinions of its users. This is in line with the opinion of Wardhaugh and Fuller (2015:14; Holmes, 2013; Sumarsono, 2013:19; Chaer and Agustina, 2014: 15-16) that language is a means to convey everything that is suggested, thought, and known by someone to others. Without language, humans would not be able to express ideas, thoughts, opinions, and information. Language plays an important role in every aspect of human life, one of which is to facilitate the process of social communication in society.

According to Noordiono (2016), Generation Z is a generation that has known technology and the internet since early on and is a generation that is thirsty for technology. Generation Z was born between 1995 and 2010. Generation Z has its own language style/characteristics. characteristics that are usually used for everyday communication so that they can influence their social environment. Indonesian has a very wide range of areas of use and various backgrounds of its speakers. This ultimately gave birth to several varieties/variations of language used by Generation Z, giving birth to many language variations.

As time progressed, slang was born and became part of language variations. Slang existed before 1995 and now slang is experiencing development in terms of forms that are different from previous years. This slang is a variant of Indonesian, so the dominant rule is Indonesian. According to Nurhasanah (2014:4), slang is a language style that has developed due to modifications from various languages, including Indonesian, so slang does not have a definite linguistic style structure.

Slang is developing very quickly among Generation Z because it is supported by various factors. One of these factors is environmental factors. Through this, students from various regions become aware of slang and then apply it to communicate in everyday life. One university that has many diverse students is Jember University (UNEJ). UNEJ students not only come from the Madurese ethnic, but also from various other ethnicities such as Javanese, Sundanese, and even Papuan ethnicities. This causes language diversity among students. In general, slang is used among a group of teenagers, because teenagers have their language that is used to express themselves.

In their daily communication, generation Z in the UNEJ environment is never free from the use of slang. Slang can be articleed based on several rules, including lexicon, morphology, phonology, syntax, and semantics. However, this article only discusses slang based on lexical rules.

Similar article was conducted by Alquddus (2020). The article aims to describe the types of slang words used by students at SD Negeri Boyo Kota Gunungsitoli and the intensity of student communication in using slang among students at SD Negeri Boyo Kota Gunungsitoli. The article method is qualitative and descriptive using interview techniques to obtain data. From the results of this article, it was found that the phenomenon of slang among students at SD Negeri Boyo Kota Gunungsitoli has become a common trend because it is always used to communicate in situations when playing and joking.

Second, article on slang was conducted by Fawaid, Hieu, Wulandari, dan Iswatiningsih (2021). This article includes qualitative descriptive article and aims to describe the use of slang which includes acronyms and abbreviations. From the article results, it was found that there was the use of slang in the form of abbreviations and acronyms. Slang vocabulary in the form of abbreviations is classified into abbreviated forms with different formation processes, namely retaining the first two, three, or four letters of a word that is shortened, and retaining the first letter of each word that forms a concept. Apart from that, slang vocabulary in the form of acronyms is classified based on its different formations, namely acronyms that are formed by taking certain syllables accompanied by modifications that appear irregular but still pay attention to the beauty of the sound.

Third, article on the use of slang was carried out by Sari, Akbarjono, dan Heriadi (2022). This article discusses the form and meaning of slang via WhatsApp social media among teenagers in Talang Karet Village, Kepahiang Regency using a qualitative approach and descriptive methods. The data in the article was obtained through observation, interviews, and documentation. Several conversation data on WhatsApp were found that had seven forms of slang, including abbreviations, shortening, acronyms, modified or creative, borrowings, affixes to arbitrary words, and puns. The meaning of slang found in this article varies greatly according to the context of the conversation, namely the meaning that refers to the context of greetings, invitations, thanks, and so on.

The article entitled "Slang Lexicon by Generation Z at the University of Jember" has similarities and differences with previous studies. The similarities between this article and previous article include that they both examine informal language varieties in sociolinguistic studies which focus on the use of slang. This article is also different from previous article in terms of the form of slang because its nature often changes and develops over time, apart from that the difference lies in the formulation of the problem raised. Previous article only focused on the types of words in slang, the form and meaning of slang. The difference is that this article discusses the characteristics and process of forming slang as well as the functions and factors that influence students in using slang. Factors that influence the use of slang by Generation Z include social media, the environment, print media, and current developments. Apart from that, the difference lies in the article location.

# 2. METHOD

This article uses descriptive qualitative article methods. Qualitative article methods are article methods that emphasize analysis or descriptive analysis to explain a phenomenon in depth by collecting as much data as possible.

Data were collected from conversations conducted by informants. The informants were UNEJ students from the 2020-2022 intake. Data collection was carried out through the observation method (Sudaryanto, 1993), namely observing the use of language by informants. Observations were carried out by engaging in conversation with informants or not engaging in conversation. The conversation was recorded and then transcribed. Data analysis was carried out by connecting the linguistic data obtained with the references referred to (Sudaryanto, 1993).

# **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Results and discussion in This article covers the process of forming a slang lexicon by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment based on abbreviation processes, phonological processes, and changes in meaning. Apart from that, a

discussion is also presented about the social functions and factors that influence the use of slang by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment.

#### **3.1 Abbreviation Process**

#### A. Abbreviation

Based on the data obtained, the slang lexicon by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment in the form of abbreviations, and patterns The formation is categorized into two types, namely : (1) abbreviations that retain the first letter of each component, and (2) abbreviations that retain the first letter of each syllable. Data about these abbreviations are as follows.

Otw	
Btw	
Ytta	
Ytta Fyp Co	
Co	
Cod	
Ldr	
Sg Hts Php Nt	
Hts	
Php	
Nt	
Rev	

From the data above, it can be described that the lexicons above are abbreviations used by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment. Lexicon *otw* is an abbreviation from English, namely on the way, which means on the way or leaving, *btw* is an abbreviation from English, namely by the way, which means by the way, *ytta* is an abbreviation from Indonesian, namely who knows, *fyp* is an abbreviation from English, namely for your page, which means for your page, *Co* is an abbreviation from English, namely check out, which is a term in online buying and selling platforms, *cod* is an abbreviation from English, namely cash on delivery, which means long distance relationship, *Sg* is an abbreviation from English, namely snap gram which means Instagram status, *Hts* is an abbreviation from Indonesian, namely relationship without status, *Php* is an abbreviation from Indonesian, namely giving false hope, *Nt* is an abbreviation from English, namely nice try, which means one-sided love, and *Pdkt* is an abbreviation from Indonesian, namely approach.

Judging from the pattern of formation, the lexicon *otw*, *btw*, *ytta*, *fyp*, *co*, *cod*, *ldr*, *sg*, *hts*, *php*, and *nt* are abbreviations formed from retaining the first letter of each component. Temporary That is, the word *pdkt* is included in the formation pattern of preserving the first letter of each syllable.

#### B. Fragment

Based on the data obtained, the slang words used by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment use the following abbreviation process.

Baby Lur Seleb Expect Cok Njir Bro Mensive

From the data above, it can be described that these words are included in the fragment abbreviation process. *Beb* is a part of the word *baby* which comes from English and is used as a greeting word, *lur* is a part of the word *Dulur* in Javanese which means brother and is used as a greeting word, *seleb* is a part of the word *celebrity* from Indonesian, *expect* is a part of the word *expectation* which comes from Indonesian which means shadow, *cok* is a part of the word *jancok* which comes from Javanese which is used as a curse and has now expanded its meaning to become a greeting word, *njir* is a part of the word *anjir* which is a play on the word dog, *bro* is a part of from the word *brother* 

from English which is used as a greeting, and *mensive* is part of the word *mensiversary* which comes from English which means a celebration of relationships every month.

#### C. Acronym

Based on the data obtained, the slang lexicon of Generation Z in the UNEJ environment in the form of acronyms is categorized into eight types of formation patterns, namely : (1) retention of the first term of each component, (2) retention of the first term of each component accompanied by punctuation. conjunction, (3) retaining the first letter of each component, (4) retaining the first two letters of each component, (5) retaining the first three letters of each component, (6) retaining the first two letters of the first and third components and retaining three letters first the second component, (7) retaining the first two letters of the first component and the first three letters of the second component, and (8) retaining various letters and words that are difficult to formulate. Data about these abbreviations are as follows.



From the data above, it can be described that these lexicons are included in the acronym abbreviation process. *Gaje* is an acronym for Indonesian, namely *gak jelas* 'unclear', *japri* is an acronym for Indonesian, namely *jalur pribadi* 'private line' which means 'private chat', *camer* is an acronym for Indonesian, namely *calon mertua* 'prospective inlaws', *cogan* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *cowok ganteng* 'handsome guy', *caper* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *cari perhatian* 'seeking attention', *sikon* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *situasi dan kondisi* 'situation and condition', *kepo* is an acronym from English, namely *knowing every particular object*, which means 'wanting to know', *boti* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *bonceng tiga* 'three-way ride', *jaim* is a combined acronym from Indonesian and English, namely *jaga image* 'guard image', *omndo* is an acronym from language Indonesian, namely *omong doang* 'bull talk', *curhat* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *curahan hati* 'outpouring of the heart', *ongkir* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *ongkos kirim* 'postage', *drakor* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *drama Korea* 'Korean drama', *salting* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *salah tingkah* 'mishandling', *cinlok* is an acronym from Bahasa Indonesian, namely *cinta lokasi* 'love in location', *gercep* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *gerak cepat* 'fast movement', *pansos* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *panjat sosial* 'social climbing', *salfok* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *salah fokus* 'wrong focus', *pelakor* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *budak cinta* 'slave of love', *ordal* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *budak cinta* 'slave of love', *ordal* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *orang dalam* 'insider', *cegil* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *cewek gila* 'crazy girl', *baper* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *malas gerak* 'lazy movement', *gabut* is an acronym from In Indonesian, namely *gaji buta* 'blind salary', *alay* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *anak kampung sini* 'child of the village here', *mantul* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *mantup betul* 'really good', *jastip* is an acronym from Indonesian and English, namely *gagal move on* 'failing to move on', *sokab* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *sok akrab* 'act friendly', *gratong* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *gartis ongkir* 'free postage', and *murce* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *sok akrab* 'act friendly', *gratong* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *gratis ongkir* 'free postage', and *murce* is an acronym from Indonesian, namely *murah cekali* or *murah sekali* 'very cheap'.

Judging from the pattern of formation, the lexicon *gaje, japri, camer, cogan*, and *caper* are acronyms formed from retaining the first term of each component. *Sikon* lexicon is an acronym formed by retaining the first term of each component accompanied by the deletion of a conjunction. *Kepo* lexicon is a lexicon formed from retaining the first term of each component. The lexicon *boti, jaim*, and *omdo* is a lexicon formed by retaining the first two letters of each component. The lexicon *curhat, ongkir, drakor, salting, cinlok, gercep, pansos*, and *salfok* are acronyms formed from retaining the first three letters of each component. *Pelakor* lexicon is an acronym formed from retaining the first two letters of the first and third components and retaining the first three letters of the second component. The lexicon *bucin, ordal, cegil, baper, mager*, and *gabut* are acronyms formed from retaining the first component and the first three letters of the second component. The lexicon *bucin, ordal, cegil, baper, mager*, and *gabut* are acronyms formed from retaining the first and third components and retaining the first three letters of the second component. The lexicon *bucin, ordal, cegil, baper, mager*, and *gabut* are acronyms formed from retaining the first and the first three letters of the second component. The lexicon *alay, akamsi, mantul, jastip, gamon, sokab, gratong,* and *murce* are acronyms formed from the retention of various letters and words that are difficult to formulate.

#### **3.2 Phonological Processes**

Based on the data obtained, slang words used by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment are based on the following phonological processes.



From the data above, it can be described that these words are included in the phonological process. The word lebay comes from the Indonesian word *lebih*, which has undergone a phoneme change from the phonemes /i/ and /h/ to the phonemes /a/ and /y/. The word *ges* come from the word *guys* in English which experiences a phoneme change from the /u/ phoneme to the /e/ phoneme and experiences a phoneme deletion in the /y/ phoneme. The word *ucul* is a reversal of position or inversion of the Indonesian word *lucu* 'funny'. The word *anying* is a play on the word *anjing* 'dog; which undergoes a phoneme change from the phoneme /j/ to the phoneme /y/. The word *anjay* is a play on the

word *anjing* 'dog' which undergoes a phoneme change from the phonemes /i/, /n/, and /g/ to the phonemes /a/, and /y/. The word *anjir* is a play on the word *anjing* 'dog' which undergoes phoneme changes and reductions from the phoneme /n/, and /g/ to the phoneme /r/. The word *anjiti* is a play on the word experienced *anjing* 'dog' replacement phoneme from phoneme vocal and phoneme consonants /i/, /n/, /g/ become phonemes /r/, /i/, /t/. The word anjrot is a play on the word *aniing* 'dog', which has undergone a phonemic change from the phoneme /i/ to the phoneme /o/. The word *bjir* is a play on the word *anjing* 'dog' and is a variation of the word *njir* which has undergone a phonemic change from the phoneme /n/ to the phoneme /b/. The word *bestie* originates from the language English that the *best* friend who experiences it disappearance of phonemes on phonemes /f/, /r/, /i/, /e/, /n/, /d/ and experiences addition phoneme vowels /i/ and /e/. Gemoy said originates from the word gemas 'exasperated' in Indonesian experience replacement phoneme from /a/, /s/ to /o/, /y/. The word nongki comes from from the word nongkrong 'hang out' in Indonesian experience replacement phoneme from /r/, /o/, /n/, /g/ to phoneme /i/. Lexicon mang eak 'indeed' originates from Indonesian, namely emang iya 'yes indeed' experienced the disappearance of the phonemes /e/ in the word *emang* 'indeed' and replacement phonemes /i/ and /y/ to be phonemes /e/ and /k/. The word civus comes from Indonesian, namely serius 'serious' experience replacement phoneme from the phonemes /s/, /e/, /r/ /i/ become phonemes /c/, /i/, /y/. The word gils comes from Indonesian, namely gila 'crazy' experience replacement the phoneme /a/ becomes the phoneme /s/. The word santuy comes from Indonesian, namely santai 'relax' experience replacement phoneme from phonemes /a/, /i/ become phonemes /u/, and/y/. The word mehong originates from Indonesian, namely mahal 'expensive' experiencing phoneme changes from the phonemes /a/, /h/, /a/, /l/ to the phonemes /e/, /h/, /o/, /n/, /g/. The word gans which comes from Indonesian is ganteng 'handsome' experiences the disappearance And replacement phoneme from the phonemes /t/, /e/, /n/, and/g/ become the phoneme /s/.

#### **3.3 Change of Meaning**

Based on the data obtained, slang words used by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment based on changes in meaning are categorized into two types, namely : (1) changes in the meaning of expansion or generalization, and (2) changes in the meaning of associations. Data regarding changes in meaning are as follows.

Doi Batu Ngik-ngik Rujak Gas Salty

From the data above, it can be described that these words include changes in meaning. The word *doi* is a word in the KBBI which has undergone an expansion of meaning or generalization because it has many meanings, namely to refer to money, boyfriend, and a pronoun for men. The word *batu* 'stone' is a word that comes from Indonesian *kepala batu* which means stubborn. The lexicon ngik-ngik 'of snorting' is created by the sound of someone's breathing when they feel short of breath, which means laughing out loud. The word rujak is related to bullying. The word gas is related to motorized vehicles that travel to a certain place when the gas is pulled. Salty said which comes from from Language English salt which means salt, but in Indonesia, the word salty This experience shifts meaning from salt become furious.

Reviewed from type change the meaning, said doi including in change meaning expansion or generalization. Temporary those are the words batu, ngik-ngik, rujak, and salty including in change meaning association or change meaning Because exists equality characteristic.

# 3.4 Function Social

Several functions social from lexicon Language slang by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment are as follows.

## A. To familiarize yourself

The use of slang in daily communication serves to familiarize itself between users. Slang can be used to create stronger social bonds with other people, establish relationships with each other, and strengthen group identity, as well as create feelings of attachment and familiarity. Examples of slang words that function to familiarize yourself are the words lur, rek, beb, bro, and so on.

#### B. To refine words

Slang is often associated with a more relaxed and informal style of language, but in some contexts, slang can be used to refine speech. Examples of slang words that function to soften speech are the words anjir, anjrit, and bjir from the word dog.

#### C. To keep something secret

Slang is used as a tool to keep something secret by using a lexicon or words that have a certain meaning so that other people outside the group do not know what is being said. An example of a slang word that functions to keep something secret is the word doi.

#### D. To create an atmosphere of humor

Slang can also be used to create a humorous atmosphere by using a lexicon or unusual words to create a funny effect for the listener. An example of a slang word that functions to create a humorous atmosphere is the word berchandya which is accompanied by facial expressions and intonation.

#### E. To be sarcastic

Slang is used to be sarcastic by using words that are sarcastic in nature, conveyed in the form of ridicule and criticism. Examples of slang lexicons that function to be sarcastic are pelakor, gamon, bucin, and so on.

#### F. To convey or express feelings

Generation Z often uses slang to express feelings in a more relaxed, familiar, and expressive way. Examples of slang lexicons that function to convey or express feelings are the lexicons gils, mager, gabut, and so on.

#### **3.5 Factors that Influence the Use of Slang**

Factors that influence Generation Z at UNEJ in using slang are environmental factors. Environmental factors are the main factors influencing Generation Z to absorb the conversation around them. Generation Z tends to use slang because they are influenced by their environment. Influence from peers plays an important role in forming the slang lexicon used by Generation Z. Apart from Therefore, Generation Z learns to use new terms and creates existing slang lexicons to become more varied without changing the original meaning. In this social environment, Generation Z engages in wide-ranging conversations with people from different backgrounds and cultures so that they can enrich the vocabulary used.

# 4. CONCLUSION

From the article that has been carried out, it can be concluded that this article supports research that can strengthen previous research because there is a novelty in terms of the slang lexicon used by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment. Furthermore, the use of slang lexicon used by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment is a general symptom of the use of slang by teenagers. This can happen because Generation Z in the UNEJ environment is included in the youth group. Slang can be created due to a person's creative process in playing with words and sounds. There are several processes for forming a slang lexicon, namely based on the abbreviation process which includes abbreviations, fragments, and acronyms, the phonological process or sound play, and the process of changing meaning. The lexicons used by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment come from Indonesian, regional languages, and English, but Indonesian is the origin of the most slang lexicon used. Finally, several social functions of the slang lexicon used by Generation Z in the UNEJ environment were found, namely to familiarize themselves, soften words, keep things secret, create a humorous atmosphere, be sarcastic, and convey or express feelings. Apart from that, some factors influence Generation Z in using slang lexicons, namely: environmental factors because peers have an important role in the formation and use of slang lexicons.

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