CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

2.1 Review of Literature

This research that is related to this problem is that research that was done by Krisniawati (2011) in her thesis entitled “The Meaning of Slang Used in The Movie Script American Pie”. She found the slang words in this movie script entitled American pie by Herz (1999). To collect the data she was used documentation and qualitative method to analyze the data based on the theory introduced by Chapman (1988) and Zorc (1933). It was found in her conclusion that the primary slang are mostly identified and used by the characters in the movie, but nevertheless there are many of secondary slang used as a group urban street and rapper community in America. Regarding the word formations analysis, found there are clipped word, compounding word, borrowing, abbreviation, and blending. Comparing to my thesis, there will be a comparing meaning of slang words from English Dictionary and American Slang Dictionary. There might be will be seen the really different meaning from English Dictionary to American Slang Dictionary.

slang. And also theory of Zorc(1993). I found that in his thesis he stated that the types of slang that occurs in the movie “8 Miles” are generally primary slang. The teenage talk, the speech of urban streets gang would be the example of primary slang. From the data taken from the movie, there are thirty four primary slangs uttered by the characters in the movie. The secondary slang also used in the movie because the characters in the movie are come from one group of people who love rap music, so there are a lot of rap slangs that only can be understood by them. Compared to my thesis, as the same data is taken from a movie script but in my thesis there will be an explanation of word formations in creating slang and knowing how the slang words are exists.

The similar relevant thesis discussing about language change which categorized slang as one of it phenomenon entitled “The Language Variants Used by the Gamers in Ragnarok Online II: Legend of the Second South-East Asia,” written by Windu (2014). He taken the data from gamer’s online chatting conversation in online game: Ragnarok Online II: Legend of the Second South East-Asia server. He collected the data by note taking technique when the gamers communicated with written English and categorized based on theories. The descriptive analysis were presented on each phenomenon of language change sentences, and then analyzed with qualitative method. This thesis is aimed to identify and describe the kind phenomenon of English used by the gamers and analyze why the gamers use the kind of English among them. He categorized Slang as one of the phenomenon of language change that used by teenagers and became gamers community’s language. He described
the meaning and unique words that found in the gamer’s online chatting conversation and categorized them as Slang words, Pidgin English, Code-Switching, and Gamer’s Language or game’s term. There are two main theories applied in this study, the theory of Language Change by Holmes (1992) and Language Choice by Wardhaugh (1986). Then there were five supporting theories to answer the problems applied in this study, they are theory of Bilingualism by Trudgill (1992), Slang word by Rooney (2005), Code-Switching by Grossjean (1982), Pidgin English by Wardhaugh (1986), and Gamer’s Language proposed by Heather Spears (2011). This thesis inspired me to do my study in order to find the meaning of slang words found in online community. Comparing to my study, in his data of the study is collected from online chatting text that their expression of the speaker can’t be seen but only their text message source, and my data of study are taken from movie characters that the expression of the speaker can be seen, how are their face when saying that slang words can be known as well.

The last similar thesis discussing about slang entitled “An Analysis of Word Formation Process of English Slang in Teenagers Movie Scripts” written by Ardi (2013). This thesis analyzed the word formation process of English slang used by characters in two teenager movies scripts “Camp Rock” and “Juno”. The aim of this study is to find out the types of word formations process in creating slang that found in the movie scripts and also to comparing types of word formations of slang from the first movie and the second movie in descriptive method. From the analyses found that word formations process
that used are coinage, internal change, clipping, affixation, derivation, compounding, blending and acronym. The differences of each scenes and plot of the two movies are the important factors which affecting the differences of slang word formation process in the movies. Compared to my thesis, this thesis is only focusing on word formation process in creating slang but my thesis will be not only focusing on word formation process of creating slang but also talk about the types and the meaning of slang used in the movie scripts as the data of my study.

Besides, this thesis also reviews an e-journal entitled “Analyzing Slang Usage among Iranian Male and Female Teenagers” by Sara Hashemi Shahraki (2010). Downloaded from www.ccsenet.org/elt, on October 22, 2014 stated that: Slang usage in modern age Iran is a popular phenomenon among most male and female teenagers. How pervasive this variation of language use is among various age and sex groups in Iran has been a question of debate given the significance of religion in a theological system of social structure.

The work presented in this study aims to investigate the effect of age and sex on variability of slang usage. Sixty Iranian participant were selected, and then were divided into three age groups (i.e. primary school, high school, and senior university students) each group consisting of ten males and females. A self-made questionnaire in the form of Discourse Completion Test (DCT) describing nine situation of friendly conversation was given to the participants. They were asked to make their choice on the responses, which ranged from formal to very informal style (common teenage slang
expressions), or to write down what they wish to say under each circumstance. The results of the chi-square tests indicated that slang usage among high school students is more frequent as compared with other age groups. Unlike the popular belief suggesting that slang is used by boys rather than girls, the findings suggested that young Iranians both male and female use slang as a badge of identity showing their attachment to the social group they wish to be identified with. Related to my study, there will be the explanation of slang words from what ages are the speaker is it they are teenagers or adult and how they speak the slang words. That information will be known from the profile of the characters in the movie.

2.2 Concepts

In giving more understanding about the types and meaning of slang words in this study, slang as the concept in this study need to be described. The type of slang words are affects the meaning of slang words. The concept of this study is based on the general ideas proposed by experts in their fields.

2.2.1 Concept of Slang

According to Spolsky (1998), slang is a kind of jargon marked by its rejection of formal rules, its comparative freshness and its common ephemerality, and its marked use to claim solidarity in a group membership, is an important social force that has a major impact on
language. Slang is primarily speech claiming group membership, slang often associated with peer group and gang speech intentionally used to obtain some degree of secrecy. It may become a secret language.

The *Oxford Dictionary of Modern Slang* by John Ayto (1992) defines slang as a very informal words or expressions that are more common in spoken language, especially used by a particular group or people and are not thought suitable for formal situation.

### 2.2.2 Concept of Word Formation

According to Bauer (1983), word formation is a traditional label, and one which is useful, but it does not generally cover all possible ways of forming everything that can be called a word. Word formation can also be contrasted with the formation of idiomatic expressions, thought sometimes words can form from multi-word phrases.

### 2.3 Theoretical Framework

It is very important to give a frame in a study in order to give a distinct boundary in the process of analysis the data. The theories used to analyze the data as theoretical framework are the theories of Chapman (1988), Bauer (1983), Zorc (1993), and The Online American Slang Dictionary (2015).
2.3.1 The Types of Slang

According to Chapman (1988) there are two types or forms of slang, the primary and secondary slang.

a. **Primary Slang**

Primary slang is the pristine speech of subculture members; so very natural to its speakers that it seems they might be mute without it. The teenage talk, the speech of urban streets gangs would be the example of primary slang. Slang is primarily speech claiming group membership, slang often associated with peer group and gang speech, intentionally used to obtain some degree of secrecy, it may become a secret language, slang regularly transgress other social norms, making free use of taboo expression (Spolsky).

b. **Secondary Slang**

Secondary slang is chosen not so much to fix one group as to express one’s attitudes and resourcefulness by pretending momentarily, in a little stick of guerilla theatre, to be the member of street gang or criminal or gambler or a drug user or a professional football player, and hence to express someone’s contempt, superiority, cleverness by borrowing someone else verbal dress. It is also a matter of stylistic choice rather than true identification.

Eventually, the user of slang is not limited only for underworld people but spreading out through certain groups of people in the society. Most slang is metaphoric, in determining the meaning of slang given cannot
be directly found through its literary meaning, for example “what the hell?”, it is quiet far from our imaginary of a place for punishment by god but here the aim of saying that expression is to show the surprising which mean “what is this”. This is categorized as a language change, the change of the meaning of words into definitely different meaning with the dictionary.

2.3.2 The Word Formation of Slang

In linguistics, word formation is the creation of a new word. Word formation is sometimes contrasted with semantic change, which is a change in a single word’s meaning. The line between word formation and semantic change is sometimes a bit blurry; what one person views as a new use of an old word, another person might view as a new word derived from an old one and identical to it in form. Word formation can also be contrasted with the formation of idiomatic expressions, thought sometimes words can form from multi-word phrases.

According to Bauer (1983), word formation is a traditional label, and one which is useful, but it does not generally cover all possible ways of forming everything that can be called a word.

According to Zorc (1993), word formation supports the creativity in creating slang:

1) Clipped word
It is simply one where elements of a word have been dropped in common use. This occurs when a parent word having more than one syllable is stemmed into one syllable. It may come from beginning as well as parent word.

2) Compounding word

Compounding is the use of two or more roots to form a word. One particular type of compounding is the phrasal verb. Over time, the spaces between the words in the phrases often lost, forming a single word.

3) Borrowing word

Borrowed roots are taken from another language; creation of slang is not limited with the speaker’s or writer’s own language.

4) Backward formation

Backward formation is a form of slang where words are reserved. Slang consists of saying a parent word backward formation occurs when components of the original are cut off. The only way to distinguish a back formation is by dating. The older term is the original, even if it is the more complex form.

5) Abbreviation

The initial position of the words or syllable of phrase used to form a word.
6) Blending

A blend or portmanteau is the result from a specific type of compounding, one where several words fused into one, thus breakfast and lunch blend become brunch.

Frequently, the creation of slang is taken from certain evidence. The meaning attached is closely related to its metaphorical meaning. By exploring the story behind, it will be helpful for us to understand from which the meaning of certain slang is developed.

2.3.3 The Meaning of Slang

In this study, the meanings of slang words are described based on Thematic Dictionary of American Slang and from online dictionaries of American slang. The meaning explained is not only meaning based on dictionaries, but also meaning in whole context of the sentence situation.

Frequently, the creation of slang is taken from certain evidence. The meaning attached is closely related to its metaphorical meaning. By exploring the story behind, it would be helpful for us to understand from which the meaning of slang is developed.

e.g.  *Holy shit/shit*  a general expression of disgust; nonsense

*Babe*  good looking woman