

AN ANALYSIS ON THE USE OF SLANG IN *MEAN GIRLS* MOVIE

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Abstract : The goal of the study is to identify the different slang terms that the performers in the Signify Girls movie used as well as explain what such terms mean. This study's research strategy might be characterized as a setting for gathering and analyzing information from the Mean Girls movie. The writer has the correct solution for analyzing the issue in the Mean Girls movie when employing qualitative research in place of descriptive data such as written and spoken. This study used the Eric Partridge theory to classify the slang terms that the actors in the Mean Girls movie used the most, and the Holmes (2013) theory of social factors that are the conversation's subject, setting, and participants' social relationships was used to analyze the context of the words used. The total number of words gleaned from the Mean Girls movie, including phrases, is 7. The top seven slang phrases used by actors are all listed here. Of the seven slang terms, three are classified as "society slang," two as "public house slang," and two as "slang at public schools and universities." The seven slang phrases spoken by the characters all have different context-specific meanings despite being the same. The conversation that is currently taking place is greatly influenced by the conversation's topic, location, and social relationships with the group. The author offers advice to the following researcher on how to enhance sociolinguistic analysis by carrying out comparable studies with diverse research subjects. The author cautions upcoming researchers to exercise caution when gathering slang word data because there are numerous comparable slang words with various meanings, depending on the conversational setting.

Keywords: *sociolinguistics, language, and slang*

INTRODUCTION

When communicating, it's important to use language that's appropriate for the circumstance and condition in order to have successful conversations. Language and society are intertwined, which is relevant to sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics is the study of language that investigate the language used by the society to communicate one and others by considering the social factors of the speakers (Rantung et al., 2022). Humans use language to share information, offer criticism and advice, express sentiments, and communicate ideas in addition to verbally exchanging words. Slang words are one of the linguistic patterns that can be discovered in society. One of the linguistic patterns that young people frequently employ when communicating with friends in a community is slang. Slang expressions are common in public settings including houses, stores, and schools. Slang phrases are frequently used in films, plays, novels, comic books, and online forums. Slang words are frequently utilized in works of art today, such as movies. The most effective way to learn the newest slang is through a movie. Following the plot has several benefits, including providing enjoyment, knowledge, and the opportunity to gain valuable life lessons. Slang-illiterate viewers will find it difficult to understand the movie's messages or to want to watch it. The writer will examine slang terms in a movie in more detail. Mean Girls is the name of the movie that the writer will review. Tina Fey wrote the screenplay for the Mean Girls movie, which Mark Waters directed. This movie is based on Rosalind Wiseman's novel *Queen Bees and Wannabes*. The Mean Girls movie, which debuted on April 30, 2004, brought in \$130 million globally. This movie will analyze the teen comedy subgenre. You will find it simpler to converse with people from different generations if you learn slang words. Slang words might occasionally sound foreign to people who don't frequently or even never use them. Because some slang terms are impolite and might lead to communication difficulties. In order to maintain effective contact with others, especially in movies, it is necessary to understand the meaning of slang phrases in order to comprehend the context of the conversation.

This article looks at how to recognize slang terms and how to explain their context in the film *Mean Girls*. Some articles discuss slang terms. A Sociolinguistics Analysis of Cher Horowitz's Use of Slang in the Film *Clueless* by Adelina Sekhar (PUTRI, 2020) . The study of sociolinguistics, which investigates the connection between language and society, is more focused. Qualitative research methodologies were employed in this study. This study examines Cher's usage of slang in the movie *Clueless*, as well as the role and significance of slang terms in the story. The writer focuses on the purpose and broader background that are used in the film. Rosa S (2018) "The Slang Words Used in Andy Tennant's *The Hitch* Film." In this study, the types and definitions of slang words used in the Hitchcock movie were examined. In order to assess the data, the researcher took a descriptive approach and employed qualitative techniques. There are similarities and distinctions between the writer and the related studies that can be inferred from the foregoing explanation. Similarities, relevant research, and the author's use of qualitative methodology are all considered. The goal of the study is to compare the writer's findings to those of related studies.

The writer thinks that readers, particularly students in English language and literature study programs who are interested in gaining more understanding about literary works, particularly movies, can benefit from it. The writer's goal in doing this research is to educate readers about commonly used slang terms and social cues.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

For this project, the research study employs qualitative approaches. Bogdan & Biklen, from 1992 Research that is descriptive is qualitative. The data are displayed as words or graphics rather than numerical values. Quotes from the data are included in the written research findings to support and clarify the presentation. The research design of this study can be compared to the setting in which information from the *Mean Girls* movie was obtained and analyzed. By using qualitative research, where

descriptive facts, such as written and spoken accounts, are present, the author has the right answer for analyzing the problem in the movie Mean Girls.

Data Sources

The Mean Girls movie, written by Tyna Fey and directed by Mark Waters, with a running time of 1 hour 37 minutes, provided the data for this study. Data is defined as "any knowledge or fact that is useful in deciding and discussing something," according to Hornby (2010:295). In order to identify the types of slang employed and their contextual significance in the conversation, data were extracted from the dialogue spoken by the actors in the Mean Girls movie. The primary source could be this movie. The author needed additional data, known as secondary sources, to corroborate the original source mentioned above and to aid in the analysis of the primary data. As a result, the writer obtained a lot of knowledge from theory values and other online sources that focus more on types and contextual meaning.

Data Analysis

In analysed the data, the writer used the steps of Bogdan and Biklen (1992;28):

1. Unitization

In this activity, the writer collected the data and put them into unit.

2. Categorization

In this activity, the data are categorized based on the kinds of slang by Eric Partridge, there are; Society Slang, Public House Slang, and Slang in Public School and University.

3. Explanation

The context of the conversation is ascertained in this exercise using data analysis. In analyzing contextual meaning, the theory of Holmes (2013) regarding the social aspects that are the topic of the conversation, the setting of the venue, and the social relationships of the conversation participants was applied (Zhou & Fan, 2013). The slang terms used by the actors in each scene are organized and examined based on social characteristics. And then there's the meaning of slang, which Urban Dictionary also breaks down based on the

conversational subject. Since slang dictionaries frequently contain words with many definitions, this is done to determine the precise meaning of a slang word.

4. Interpretation

In this activity, the data are interpreted for the conclusion

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Activity of Unitization

In this step, the writer identified slang words that were uttered by the actors in the Mean Girls movie, and the writer found 7 slang words that were uttered by the actors in the Mean Girls movie.

There are: Too Guy to function, this girl is deep, a little slice like you, guys, buddy, grool, and fetch.

Activity of Categorization

The author identified the top 7 slang phrases used by the performers in the Mean Girls movie. The writer then divided the slang words into the following categories using Eric Partridge's theory there are: Society slang, Public house slang, and Slang in Public School and University.

Society Slang

Based on theory above, the writer found thirty-nine slang words and then the writer categorizes the utilized slang word who has characteristics belongs to society slang as follow:

1. Too Guy to Function

In this scene, Cady is in class and sitting next to the table that Janis and Damian are sitting at. Damian complimented Cady's hair and said he wanted to have Cady's hair color. Janis introduces Damian to Cady by calling Damian too gay to function.

Damian : See, this is the color I want.

Janis : This is Damian. He's almost too guy to function.

From the conversation above, **too guy to function** is included in Society Slang. Since, according to the aforementioned theory, Partridge stated that slang was utilized "in society and in close corporations, groups, and segments of society. How jargon evolves is sometimes influenced by how exclusive it is. Society slang is concerned with the spirit of the cosmos, the life in the world, as well as with specific objects and the slanger's own line of work in a happy or cooperative way. Despite the many linguistic interpretations of the solemnity and respect it affords, slang rarely manages to sustain respects in its forward march (Partridge, 2013).

2. This girl is deep

Janis, Damian, and Cady were walking towards room G-14, which was actually permanently closed. Janis and Damian invite Cady to skip gym class and relax in the building behind the school. While walking, Damian read the schedule of subjects taken by Cady. He was surprised that Cady was taking a Maths class. He asks why Cady likes math, to which he replies because it's the same in all countries. Damian looks at Janis and says Cady is a smart girl.

Damian : "Health. Spanish."

You're taking 12th-grade calculus?

Cady : Yeah, I like math.

Damian : Why?

Cady : Because it's the same in every country.

Damian : That's beautiful. This girl is deep.

From the conversation above, **this girl is deep** is included in Society Slang. Because, based on the theory above, in reference to slang used in society, Partridge claimed that it was used "in society as well as in nearby businesses, organizations, and societal segments. How jargon evolves is sometimes influenced by how exclusive it is. Society slang is concerned with the spirit of the cosmos, the life in the world, as well as with specific objects and the

slanger's own line of work in a happy or cooperative way. Despite the many linguistic interpretations of the solemnity and respect it affords, slang rarely manages to sustain respects in its forward march (Partridge, 2013).

3. A little slice like you

Cady, who wanted to take a sports class in room G-14, asked Janis and Damian where the room was. However, Janis invites Cady not to attend class by lying to Cady. Cady was taken to the back of the school by Janis and Damian, who explained that a friend is unlikely to get his friend into trouble. Even though she knows what they are doing is immoral, Cady, who truly wants to have friends, doesn't want to decline Janis' invitation. Janis began questioning Cady about why she stopped homeschooling. She is a gorgeous girl, so I'm sure she would appeal to a lot of people.

Janis : Why didn't they just keep home-schooling?

Cady : They wanted me to get socialized.

Damian : Oh, you'll get socialized, all right. A little slice like you.

From the conversation above, **a little slice like you** is included in Society Slang. Because, based on the theory above, in reference to slang used in society, Partridge claimed that it was used "in society and in close-knit organizations, communities, and spheres of society. The level of jargon's own exclusivity often has an impact on how it evolves. Society slang is concerned with the cosmos' spirit and existence in general, as well as with specific objects and the slanger's own line of work. Even with different language treatments for the solemnity and respect it delivers, slang rarely retains respects in its forward course (Partridge, 2013).

Public House Slang

Based on the aforementioned premise, the writer discovered two slang words. The writer then classified the used slang word, which contains features belonging to Public House slang, as follows:

1. Guys

At a party that Cady throws at her house, she approaches Gretchen and Karen, who are together, and asks if they saw Aaron come to the party that was prepared.

Cady : Have you guys seen Aaron yet?

Gretchen & Karen : No.

From the conversation above, **guys** are included in public house slang. Because, according to the theory outlined above, the definition of public house slang is regarded to be public house group words and phrases, which, due to the nature of the subject, compensate for the limited recorded vocabulary. Here are some public house slang examples (Partridge, 2013).

2. Buddy

It was Janis who was talking to Cady in the still-running car that Damian had driven. Janis said all the annoyance she felt because Cady had lied to her. She didn't invite them to his party because she was pretending to be part of a Plastic group. But Janis yells at Cady that she's not pretending anymore; she's already in the group.

Cady : You know I couldn't invite you. I had to pretend to be plastic.

Janis : Hey, buddy, you're not pretending anymore.

From the conversation above, buddy is included in public house slang. Because the definition of public house slang according to the idea above is believed to be public house group words and phrases, which compensate for the subject's short documented vocabulary. Here are some instances of bar slang (Partridge, 2013).

Slang in Public School and University

Based on theory above, the writer discovered two slang terms and then categorized the one that was used as belonging to public school and university lingo as follows:

1. Grool

Aaron invites Cady to a Halloween party at his friend Chris's house. Aaron said that people would be wearing costumes. He said the invitations were limited and told Cady not to invite anyone else.

Aaron : That flier admits one person only
so, don't bring some other guy with you.

Cady : Grool.

From the conversation above, **grool** is included slang in public school and university. Based on the theory above, Students in this kind of situation end up being the major source because they are fresh and full of drive to move forward for their futures. It has occurred for more than two centuries in public schools as well as board schools and private schools. Slang comes in two varieties: legitimate slang and gibberish (Partridge, 2013).

2. Fetch

Regina complimented the bracelet used by Cady, she asked where she got the bracelet. Cady said that it was her mother who made the bracelet. Then Gretchen also complimented the bracelet.

Regina : Oh, my God, I love your bracelet. Where did you get it?

Cady : Oh, my mom made it for me.

Regina : It's adorable.

Gretchen : Oh, it's so, fetch.

The dialogue above demonstrates that fetch is slang used at universities and public schools. According to the aforementioned hypothesis, students in such a situation end up being the main source because they are youthful and full of energy to move forward for their futures. It has occurred for more than two centuries in public schools as well as board schools and private schools. Slang comes in two varieties: legitimate slang and gibberish (Partridge, 2013).

Explanation

On April 30, 2004, the movie Mean Girls was released. This film explores the teen comedy subgenre. Many American slang terms are frequently used by the actors in this movie. The writer of this exercise described or explained the slang terms used by the actors in the Mean Girls movie to convey their context.

01/ 05:47

Damian : See, this is the colour I want.

Janis : This is Damian. He's almost too guy to function.

The dialogue that was just had was between Damian, Janis, and Cady. Janis introduces Damian as "Gay" when Damian inquires about Cady's hair colour, which confuses Cady. Damian and Janis are close friends, and Janis says Damian is too guy to function. Janis was also introduced to Cady. This dialogue takes place in the classroom when they are about to start a new subject. Eventually, Cady makes friends with Damian and Janis.

In the conversation between Damian, Janis, and Cady, according to Urban Dictionary, "too guy to function" has the meaning of *a male who is blatantly gay but acts like he is still in the closet and no one knows. When around other males, he cannot help but be flustered and out of sorts* and has a contextual meaning as *a gay person*.

02/06:30

Damian : "Health. Spanish."

You're taking 12th-grade calculus?

Cady : "Yeah, I like math.

Damian : Why?

Cady : Because it's the same in every country.

Damian : That's beautiful. This girl is deep.

The conversation that occurred above between Damian and Cady started with Damian being surprised when he read the subjects taken by Cady. She took a calculus

class, so Damian asked why Cady liked math, because according to Cady, mathematics lessons were the same in all countries. Damian was very surprised by the answer Cady gave. Damian told Janis that Cady was a smart girl. This dialogue took place while they were walking towards the building behind the school. They are friends who are just getting to know each other.

According to Urban Dictionary Deep means: *A person who can sit aside their own thoughts beliefs and ideas to use critical thinking concepts.* The contextual meaning of **this girl is deep that** she's *a smart girl*. From the dialogue above, Damian said Cady is a smart girl because she answered the questions Damian gave. From that answer, Damian concluded that Cady was a smart girl.

03/ 07:14

Janis : Why didn't they just keep home-schooling?

Cady : They wanted me to get socialized.

Damian : Oh, you'll get socialized, all right. A little slice like you.

The conversation above between Janis, Damian, and Cady started with Janis asking why Cady didn't continue home schooling. Cady answered that her parents wanted her to socialize. Then Damian said there must be many who like Cady, but Cady didn't understand what Damian meant, so Janis explained what Damian meant. This dialogue took place while they were sitting on the grass in front of the school. Because Cady doesn't understand what is meant by a little slice like you, it can be said that it's not because she doesn't understand the context of their conversation but because Cady has never socialized, so the sentence sounds foreign to her ears. The relationship between them was that of classmates, so they were very relaxed.

Little slice is a slang word *meaning a woman who is hot or attractive*. The contextual meaning of **a little slice like you** means that *a lot of people like you*. However, this sentence refers to an informal sentence, so you have to be more careful when using it. Damian used this sentence on Cady because they were classmates, so he used informal language on Cady.

04/ 11:19

Regina : Oh, my God, I love your bracelet. Where did you get it?

Cady : Oh, my mom made it for me.

Regina : It's adorable.

Gretchen : Oh, it's so, fetch.

The conversation above takes place between Regina, Cady, and Gretchen, starting with Regina seeing the bracelet that Cady is wearing. She compliments the bracelet and asks where she got it. Cady said the bracelet was made by her mother and then Gretchen spliced it with the words "so fetch" or "awesome. This dialogue takes place in the cafeteria. Their relationship began to become that of friends. According to the Urban Dictionary, **fetch** means *cool, awesome, or good*. The contextual meaning of **fetch** is awesome. From the dialog above Gretchen admired Cady's mother who made the bracelet.

05/ 24.56

Aaron : That flier admits one person only
so, don't bring some other guy with you.

Cady : Grool.

The conversation above takes place between Aaron and Cady, starting with Aaron inviting Cady to a Halloween party at his friend Chris's house. Aaron said that people would be wearing costumes. He said the invitations were limited and told Cady not to invite anyone else. Cady is very happy to say Grool, Aaron is confused about what Cady means then says if he combines the words Greet and Cool to become Grol. This dialogue takes place in mathematics class. The relationship between Cady and Aaron becomes intimate because Cady likes Aaron which is evident from the way Cady sees Aaron.

According to Urban Dictionary, **grool** means *simply a clear, white, or greyish white fluid. It is a combination of vaginal mucus and various other vaginal fluids*. The contextual meaning of "**grool**" in this dialogue is *great and cool*. She combined the

two words and it became a gritty word. Because he was so happy, Aaron invited him to Halloween.

06/ 56:26

Cady : Have you guys seen Aaron yet?

Gretchen& Karen : No.

The conversation above takes place between Cady, Gretchen, and Karen. It started with Cady calling the two of them in the party crowd to ask if they both saw Aaron coming. Gretchen and Karen both answered no. This dialogue takes place at a party held at Cady's house. The relationship between Cady, Gretchen, and Karen is that of good friends.

According to Urban Dictionary, **hey guys** means *an annoying individual without friends who always tries to start a conversation with your squad by saying "Hey Guys"*. The contextual meaning of guys in this dialog is to *start conversation for ask about Aaron*.

07/ 1:00:41

Cady : Oh, God.

Janis : You dirty little liar.

Cady : I'm sorry. I can explain.

Janis : Explain how you forgot to invite us to your party?

Damian : Janis, I cannot stop this car. I have a curfew.

Cady : You know I couldn't invite you. I had to pretend to be Plastic.

Janis : Hey, buddy, you're not pretending anymore.

You're Plastic. Cold, shiny, hard Plastic.

The conversation above took place between Janis, Damian, and Cady, starting with Janis saying that Cady was a liar. Cady said she could explain it. Janis responded sarcastically and asked if she could explain why she had forgotten to invite the two of them. Damian tells Janis he can't stop this car. Then Cady answered Janis's question by saying she couldn't invite them because she had to pretend to be part of a plastic group. Janis calls Cady "Buddy." She's not pretending anymore, but she's a

plastic group. truly a plastic group. This dialogue takes place in front of Cady's house, with Janis and Damian driving the car while Cady is on the road. The relationship between Cady and Janis is a friend. Buddy means sobat. According to Urban Dictionary **buddy** means *friend 5% of the time*. So, the contextual meaning of **buddy** is *a call to a friend*.

Interpretation

It can be interpreted that slang words can change their meaning according to the context of the topic of conversation and social factors such as place settings and social relations because mutual intimacy can influence someone to use slang words.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research results obtained in the Mean Girls movie, it can be concluded as follows:

1. The total obtained from the Mean Girls movie is 7 words, including sentences. But I just put There are some slang words that are most often spoken by actors. Of the 7 slang words, there are 3 slang words that kinds of "society slang," 2 slang words of "public house slang," and 2 slang words of the type "slang in public school and university."
2. Society slang include: Too Guy to Function, this girl is deep, A little slice like you; Public House Slang consists of: Guys, buddy; Slang in Public School and University consists of: Grool, Fetch.
3. Despite being the same, the 7 slang terms used by the characters have various contextual meanings. The conversation that is currently going place is greatly influenced by the conversation's topic, location, and social relationships with the group. The conversation that is currently going place is greatly influenced by the conversation's topic, location, and social relationships with the group.

SUGGESTIONS

The author advises that the following researcher expand the sociolinguistic analysis by carrying out comparable study but using various research subjects. A sociolinguistic technique can be used to analyze a variety of literary works, including movies. However, the author cautions upcoming researchers to exercise caution when compiling slang word data due to the fact that many slang terms share similarities yet have various meanings depending on the conversational situation.

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