

**Investigating The Students Use of Internet Slang At 4th Grade at English  
Language Education UIN Mataram**

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***Abstract***

Internet slang is often used in informal communication. The purpose of this research is to find out what are the factors of students of 4th grade English Language and Education UIN Mataram in using internet slang, and students perceive toward the use of internet slang in communication. This research used qualitative case study method to obtain quantitative data, this research using 2 instruments which are questionnaires and interviews. The author distributed questionnaires to 53 respondents consisting of 4 classes, namely classes A, B, C, and D in collecting data. The results showed that more than half of the respondents said that there are 5 factors that influence them, which are; 1. Social status, 2. Age, 3. Social Distance of Familiarity, 4. Situations, and 5. Media and Popular Culture, next findings There are 3 students' perspectives about the internet slang, first is the desire to appear cool, second is facilitate communication, the last is conceal information from others. Another discovery is 32 respondents (60.37%) understand the term of internet and 17 respondents (32.08%) do not understand the term of slang, it can be concluded that students at 4th Grade Uin Mataram mostly understand the terms of Internet slang

***Kata-kata Kunci:*** *Internet slang, Perspective, Factors Influence, Uin Mataram*

**Introduction**

Indonesia is a country with a large number of social media users. according to the We Are Social report, the number of active social media users in Indonesia in January 2023 was 167 million people or 60.4% of the population. This is a 12.57% decrease from 191 million people the previous year. In addition, Indonesians use the internet for an average of 7 hours and 42 minutes per day (Shilvina Widi, 2023). People's communication habits have drastically evolved in the current day. It is a fantastic step in the direction of a Web that is more responsive, dynamic, collaborative, and community-focused. Not only do we use the Internet nowadays, but we are also a member of this worldwide network. Since humans are social creatures, they engage in verbal and nonverbal communication frequently to develop relationships. Language is a vital tool for conducting effective conversations, so people and language are inextricably linked. People also need to understand the language in order to avoid making mistakes.

Language changes have always been brought about by the millennial generation. They may do so to establish a generational identity or to gain authority in a context where they

usually do not have it. As the millennial age enters the workforce with distinct communication experiences, companies are beginning to see the effects applied to work-related communication strategies (Siti frastiwi & Siti Aisyah, 2022). Slang is defined by Allan and Burridge as a signifier for certain social groupings. Communities that share experiences include kid groups at certain schools and social groups (such as professional criminals, jazz musicians, hookers, or drug addicts). Slang terms were discovered to be frequently used by students, most of which fell into the categories of vulgarity & obscenity and informality & debasement.

The internet, social media (including YouTube, Instagram, and Twitter), movies, and music were among the media that encouraged students to utilize slang terms. In order to expand their English vocabulary, students frequently used these sources on their own to get slang terms. Slang words used in social media are diverse, creative, and dynamic, with various types identified including fresh and creative, flippant, imitative, acronyms, and clipping. The study also found that slang is increasingly being utilized in written language on social media platforms such as Instagram, YouTube, WhatsApp, and Facebook (Ambarsari et al., 2020).

The millennial generation has given rise to a phenomenon known as slang, and those who live in rural areas, as well as cities, have heard it spoken as though it were a fashion. The slang language phenomena also found in students at UIN Mataram, especially at 4th grade, some of them using internet slang for the example “*kamu Dimana, aku OTW nih*”, the meaning of “OTW” words is “On The Way” they are usually use it at everyday conversation, it makes researcher want to conduct this English internet slang to find out the perception about English internet slang, and the factors that influence. Another Example is “*Apa kabar bro*” the word Bro is a short word from “brother”, the usually used the bro phrase to communicate with his friend.

The slang phrases found in online content, include YouTube, movies, music, social networking, and so on. Online slang is freely accessible to students over the internet. It provides a wide variety of slang terms. Based on this occurrence, it is especially important to study or analyze slang terms as part of the language shift in the current digital era. Due to its dynamic and extensive diffusion and usage, slang on social media makes for an interesting area of study. According to the background above, this research will focus to find out student perception towards the use of slang, and the factors that influence student at 4th grade English language education department UIN Mataram.

1. What are the students’ perspective about the internet slang?
2. What are the factors that influence the use of English slang?

## **A. Review of Related Theories**

Adolescent life is heavily influenced by slang, especially among students, as was previously established (Thurairaj et al., 2015). Among the most significant inventions of the 20th century is the Internet. The global Internet has steadily gained popularity during the 1990s, and a revolution in information technology marked by networking and digitalization has permeated all facets of life (Liu et al., 2023). Slang becomes the part of language variation because of the need to adapt to new or different aspects of society and factor of social prestige. The majority of dictionaries concur when it comes to lexicography that the word "slang" has at least two definitions. Slang is twofold; first, it is the limited vocabulary of socially marginalized or separate groupings; second, it is a transient, nonstandard language that is mostly associated with informality and innovation (Mattiello, 2008).

Internet slang also called Internet shorthand, cyber-slang, netspeak, digispeak or chatspeak is a non-standard or unofficial form of language used by people on the Internet to communicate to one another (Zappavigna, 2015). The example of Internet slang is "LOL" example, which means "laugh out loud." Because Internet slang is always changing, it's impossible to establish a consistent definition. However, it can refer to any type of jargon that Internet users have popularized and, in many cases, coined. These terms are frequently used to conserve keystrokes or make up for restricted character space. Many people use the same acronyms for texting, instant messaging, and social networking sites. Acronyms, keyboard symbols, and abbreviations are popular forms of Internet lingo.

There are several opinions about the factors that influence the use of slang, including St Marhana Rullu, and Walt Wolfarm. in his research St Marhana Rullu (Marhana Rullu, 2018) explains that the factors that influence slang are; 1. social status The term "social status" describes a person's place in a social hierarchy. Students may utilize slang in the classroom to create or preserve their social standing among their peers, 2. Age Language usage is highly influenced by age, and pupils in a classroom usually come from a variety of age groups. Slang phrases that are common among their classmates may be introduced by younger students, while older students may adopt or modify these terms. Students who are in comparable age groups might feel more connected to one another when they utilize age-specific terminology, 3. social distance of familiarity; the perceived emotional and social proximity or separation between people is referred to as social distance. Slang is a common way for students in a classroom who are close to one other, such friends or people who share interests, to communicate with each other., and 4. Situation Slang usage in the classroom can be influenced by the situational context, which includes the lesson plan, the teaching style, and the general vibe. While, Walt Wolfarm in his research said that media and popular culture are factors that influence the use of slang language, slang is heavily influenced by the media,

which includes popular culture and the internet. Slang words are frequently created by the media and spread via a variety of channels, which helps them become part of common speech (Wolfarm & Shilling, 2015).

KBBI defines perspective as a way of viewing, a view, or depicting an item in three dimensions (length, breadth, and height) on a flat surface. According to the description above, perspective is a way of looking at an item, and perception is the act of interpreting information to characterize and understand the environment. Slang frequently has negative connotations; yet, it is not necessarily intended to offend others. Slang can also be used to communicate a variety of emotions, including joy, grief, happiness, depression, pleasure, and aggravation. According to Suhardianto and Melly Siska research, there are 3 perspectives of using slang by teen age Batam from the 1980s to the 2000s; 1. desire to appear cool, 2. facilitate communication, 3. conceal information from others (Suhardianto & Suryani, 2018)

## **B. Research Method**

### **a. Method**

In this study, the researcher took a qualitative method using case study research. Denzin and Lincoln define qualitative research as "research that uses a natural setting with the intention of interpreting the phenomena that occur and are carried out by involving various existing methods." (Satori Djam'an & Aan Komariah, 2009). Qualitative research is a research approach that aims to understand and explain certain phenomena or contexts through the collection and analysis of descriptive, narrative, or non-numerical data (Patton, 2001).

This research using qualitative research because qualitative research allows researcher to understand phenomena in greater depth. By directly involving students in in-depth interviews, observations, or focus group discussions, researchers can delve deeper into the elements that contribute to the use of slang. This research use case study method, a case study is an in-depth research approach to understanding and analyzing a particular phenomenon in a real context (Yin, 2017). More over definition of a case study is researcher explore in depth a program, an event, an activity, a process, or one or more individuals (Creswell, 2018). So, it may be said that study cases are employed by researcher that seek to extract meaning from objects that manifests itself as signs, symbols, or other specific attributes.

### **b. Participants**

The subject that offers the information from which the data is derived is the data source. In this research, researchers use both primary and secondary sources. (Suharsimi, 2006). Primary data is information that a researcher obtains for the first time, whereas secondary data is information that has already been obtained or developed by another researcher (Ajayi, 2023). The primary source of this research is students in 4th grade of English education UIN Mataram.

This study involved 53 4th semester students from the State Islamic University (UIN) Mataram as participants to fill out the questionnaire. The participants came from four different classes, namely classes A, B, C, and D. After data collection through questionnaires, the research involved 8 additional participants to proceed to the interview session. These interviews aimed to gain a more in-depth and detailed insight into the topic under study.

### **c. Instruments**

In collecting data researcher use two instrument which are Questionnaire and Interview. The researcher carefully constructed the questionnaire to ensure the questions were relevant to the research aims and easily understood by the respondents. The questionnaires are modified from previous research questions, In the questionnaire, the researcher will ask about the extent of students' knowledge of slang, how often students use slang, and what slang sentences they use (Baby & Wijaya, 2014).

The first technique is a questionnaire. This questionnaire consists of several parts, The first part includes basic background information of participants (e.g., name and student phone number). The second part included five questionnaires about students understanding of English slang, third part of the questionnaire was about the factors that influence the use of English slang, in this part were 5 closed questions, where respondents had to choose one of the answers that corresponded to the experience they had: *Sangat setujuu*, *setuju*, *Tidak Setuju*, dan *Sangat Tidak Setuju*. The following question was adopted by the Findings of the research by St Marhana Rullu (Marhana Rullu, 2018).

Interview Interviews are data that are often used in qualitative research. Interviews are usually used when researcher find problems that must be researched, and researcher want to know things related to informants more deeply. Interview is a method of data collection in research that involves direct interaction between the researcher (interviewer) and the participant. In interviews, pre-designed questions are asked of respondents to obtain in-depth information about their views, experiences, or understandings related to the research topic. In the interview, the researcher will ask several questions about what factors influence them in using slang according to St Marhana Rullu, and Walt Wolfarm, and how students perceive about the use of slang language.

### **d. Data Analysis**

This method of analysis aims to provide a detailed and holistic description of the phenomenon under study Data analysis is the process of arranging and structuring data sequences into a pattern, category, and fundamental unit of description. According to Miles and Huberman, in analyzing data there are three steps; 1. Data Reduction. In reeducating data researcher tries to choose which student will participate in an interview, then the researcher tries to collect student perceptions about English, classify and convert spoken language into written language, and

capture the participant's words verbatim, 2. Data display, 3. Conclusion drawing/verification. The conclusion is presented in a descriptive qualitative form of the object of research with the guidance of the research study.

This research is a descriptive field research, the population in this study were students of the first semester of class 10 of the Class 10 Arabic Language Learning Dormitory Program with a total sample size of 30 students. The data collection method used is the interview method, observation as the main method, while the supporting method is the documentation method. Interview and observation methods to obtain data about the implementation of the Arabic Language Learning Dormitory Program. Data collection with documentation is used to obtain data about the vision, mission, objectives of the Arabic Language Learning Dormitory Program, the Arabic Language Learning Dormitory Program curriculum, and data on student development. The data is then analyzed using qualitative analysis methods

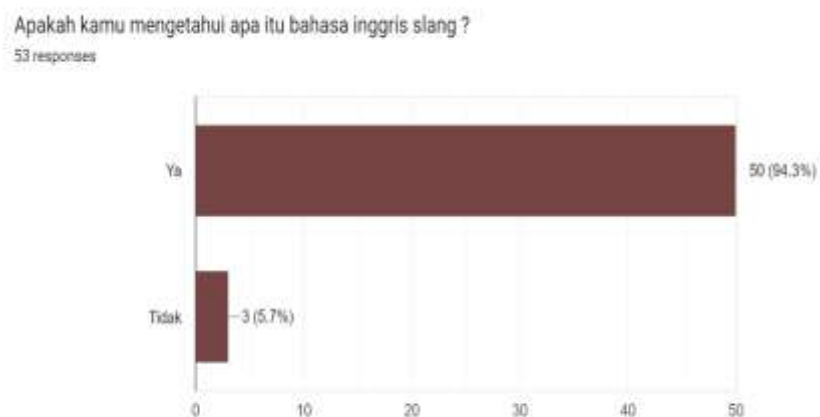
## E. Result

### Students' knowledge about internet slang

The first finding of this study was taken from the respondents' answers in the questionnaire, in this questionnaire there were 11 questions, as follows:

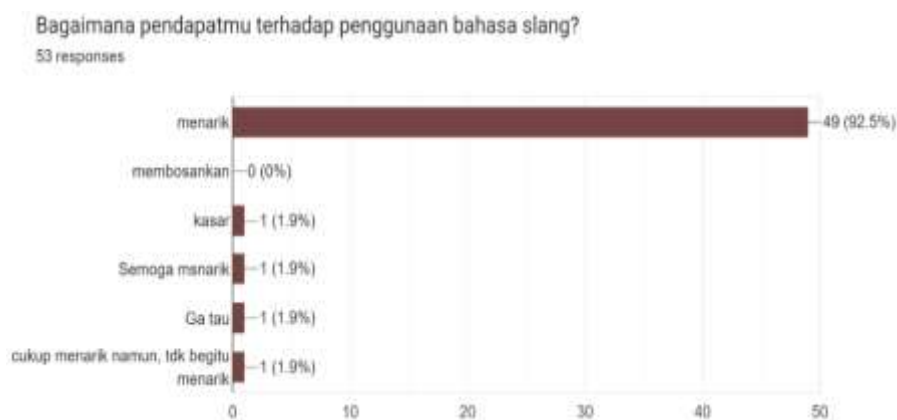
#### 1. Do you know what slang is?

This question was conducted to assess students' knowledge of English slang. From a total of 53 respondents involved in the study, from 53 respondent there were 50 respondents (94.3%) answer yes, and researcher found that 3 students or about 5.66% of them did not know slang. As for the faculty that caused it is still unknown. However, it should be noted that the question only directly asks for an understanding of slang, so there may be respondents who know it but do not understand the term, so researcher will ask student to write down the example of English slang they are use in order to find out who student understand English slang clearly.



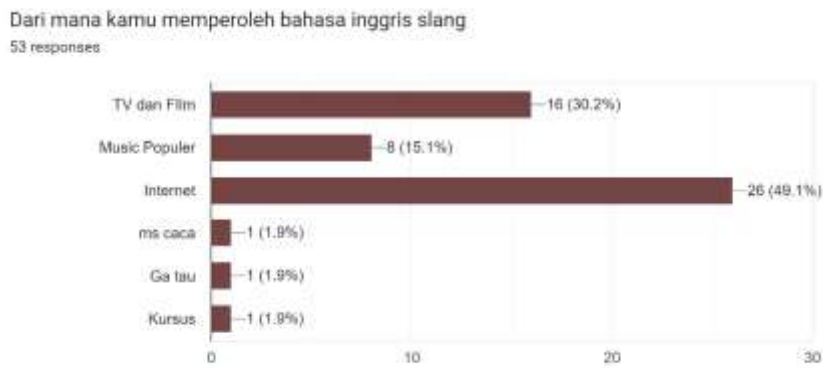
2. What do you think about the use of internet slang?

The following sentences reflect the responses of the respondents to the question regarding the use of slang, from 53 respondents who answered the question about their opinion on the use of slang, 49 (92.45%) students stated that they found the use of slang interesting. 1 student (1.9%) stated that slang was quite interesting, while another person (1.9%) claimed not to know. Unfortunately, one respondent (1.9%) gave a negative response by calling the use of slang as rude. In addition, one person (1.9%) stated that the use of slang was quite interesting, but not that interesting.



3. Where do you get your slang from?

From the results of respondents, there were 53 respondents regarding the origin of English slang acquisition, most revealed that they obtained it through various media. A total of 15 students (28.3%) claimed to get English slang from watching television shows and movies. Meanwhile, the majority of respondents, 27 students (50.9%), mentioned that the internet was their main source of understanding and adopting English slang. Another 8 respondents (15.1%) claimed to have been influenced by English slang from listening to popular music. The remaining three respondents (5.7%) gave answers outside of their preferred options, with one mentioning getting it from "miss caca," one from a course, and another claiming to have no idea at all. It can be concluded that the majority of respondents acquired their slang English through mass media, especially through television, movies, and the internet. This reflects the huge impact of modern media on the development and spread of slang among English speakers.



4. How often do you use slang?

Based on the answers of 53 respondents regarding the frequency of using English slang, the majority revealed their tendency to use slang in daily communication. A total of 41 respondents (77.4%) stated that they use it sometimes. This reflects that the use of slang is not fixed, but often appears in their informal conversations. A total of 5 respondents (9.4%) revealed that they use slang frequently, indicating that there is a small but significant segment that is more active in adopting slang expressions in their daily speech. On the other hand, 3 respondents (5.7%) stated that they always use slang. This shows that there is a small group that tends to incorporate slang expressions consistently in their verbal interactions. Although the majority of respondents tended to use slang, there were 4 students (7.5%) who stated that they never used slang.



5. Write down slang language usually used

This question was designed to strengthen the respondent's answer to the question asking about his knowledge of slang, based on the respondent's answer. Here is slang used by students at 4<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Education department UIN Mataram:

Table 1, slang used by students

Slang words	Respondents	Slang words	Respondents
Lol	2	Cringe	1



HBU	1	BTW	4
FOMO	2	Zzzz	1
IDK	1	MMB	1
IDC	1	FIY	1
IDGAF	1	Chill	9
STFU	1	Healing	2
Literally	2	Easy peasy	1
Slay	2	Guys	1
Swag	1	Whatcha	1
My bad	1	Chillax	1
Otw	1	Gimme	2
Diy	2	Stan	1
Salty	2	Fyi	1
Don't Be a chicken	1	Freak	1
Flex	1	Blinding	1
Lit	1	Diddle	2

Based on the results of the questionnaire answers from TBI students, there are some interesting findings. Out of a total of 53 respondents 32 (60.37%) students managed to give examples of English slang correctly. However, as many as 17 (32.08%) students lacked understanding about English slang so they put answers in the form of expressions, phrases, idioms, and Indonesian slang into questions that should have asked for examples of the English internet slang they used.

In addition, it was found that 2 students (3.77%) did not really understand the context of the question regarding the request to include examples of English slang. As a result, they instead included examples of Indonesian slang. Interestingly, 1 of the students entered an example of Indonesian slang in the form of the sentence "*brokap*". From that, it can be inferred that this student probably thought that the sentence "*brokap*" came from the English sentence "bro", even though they actually have different meanings. From all the respondents' answers, there was also one student who did not include an example of the slang sentence he used, and one student answered randomly. Here are the wrong answers from students:

Table 2, wrong slang used by students

Wrong words	Respondents	Wrong slang words	Respondents
Ask your pardon	1	Feel blue	2
<i>Brokap</i>	1	I brought	1

		scrummy foods	
Cheers	1	She's really down to earth	1
Don't ask too many questions	1	Ate and left no crumbs	1
Take it easy	1	Just drop it	1
Before you quit remember why are you started	1	Grumpy	1
What's up	1	Real hunk	1
Kuy	1	No clue	1
Sabi	1	Fair and square	1
I feel you	1	Zip it	1
A pice of cake	1	You need the hand	1
Give me hand	1	Give me five	1

6. What is your perspective on the use of slang?

From the data of 53 respondents' answers regarding their views on the use of slang, it can be seen that the majority of them have a positive viewpoint towards the use of slang in communication. A total of 32 respondents (60.4%) stated that they use slang because they think it looks cool. This reflects the trend among respondents who associate the use of slang with style and positive image. respondents (20.8%) said that they find slang easy to use, suggesting that comfort and flexibility in speaking are important factors in slang adoption. Meanwhile, 8 respondents (15.1%) revealed that they use slang to hide things from others, creating a secret or privacy dimension in their communication. There was 1 respondent (1.9%) who stated that the use of slang is good, although not everyone understands, highlighting the exclusivity or uniqueness aspect of using slang expressions. Another person (1.9%) stated that the use of slang is rather fun.



7. "I feel rude when talking to lecturers using English slang"

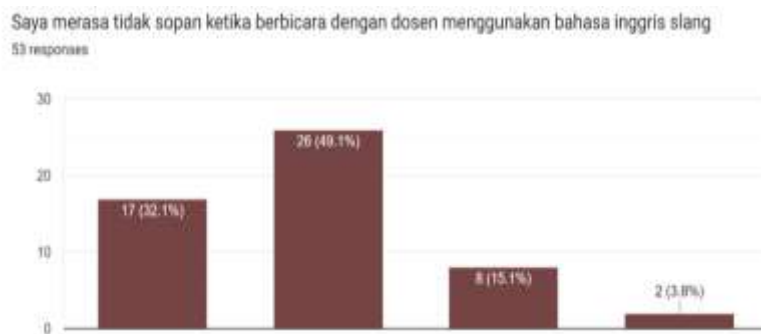
Based on the answers of the respondents, there are 17 students with a percentage of 32.1% strongly agreeing with the statement above, and then there are 26 students with a percentage of 49.1% agreeing with the statement above, 8 or 15.1% of the

respondents' answers from students disagree with the statement above, and the remaining 2 (3.8%) students who strongly disagree with the statement above. However, it is still not clearly known what the students' reasons for their answers are, for more details the researcher asks the selected students directly at the interview stage. From the questionnaire answer researcher concluded that different social statuses make one of the factors for the use of slang, such as the answers from the following interview results:

“IN: talking to person of a different social status to us would be very impolite because it means that students of a different social status to us would be older, so I think using slang is impolite.”

“NSR: slang is informal language and we shouldn't use it or it's better to avoid using it in communication in formal situations, because slang language sometimes rude ”<sup>1</sup>

Based on the answers above, it can be concluded that students feel impolite if they speak using slang with lecturers or people who have a different social status from them.



8. "I use slang English when talking to friends my age"

The results through questionnaire answers from 53 respondents, 27 students (50.9%) strongly agreed, while 24 students (45.3%) agreed to the statement "I use English slang when talking with friends my age." Only 2 students (3.8%) disagreed, while no respondents strongly disagreed.

Although the majority of respondents showed agreement with the use of English slang, it should be noted that these results may not reflect mature views. To gain deeper insights, the researcher continues this study through interview sessions to better understand the reasons and context of respondents' use of English slang, here some students answer from interview to strengthen obtained by researcher through the questionnaire before, these are the interview results:

“Not only with close friends I use slang, but with friends who I may not know but you are the same age, I use slang to feel closer, feel more familiar, slower, more relaxed in all discussions”

“Because they are of the same age or live in the same generation, they

automatically know the use of the language”

Based on the answer from interview, researcher can conclude student was agree to using slang while talking with his friend with the same age because they are feeling more comfortable to talking using slang language, and also because they believe that they have a similar style in communicate, so they will understand what they are talking with each other even though using slang.



9. “ I use slang so that I feel familiar with my interlocutors “

Based on the research results through questionnaire answers from 53 respondents, 16 students (30.2%) strongly agreed, while 24 students (45.3%) agreed to the statement "I use slang so that I feel familiar with my interlocutors." In contrast, there were 13 students (24.5%) who disagreed, while no respondents strongly disagreed. In contrast, 13 students (24.5%) disagreed, while no respondents strongly disagreed.

Although there is a significant percentage of respondents who agree with the use of slang to create a sense of familiarity, it should be noted that these results may not yet reflect the level of maturity of views. To gain a deeper understanding, the researcher plans to continue this study through interview sessions to explore the reasons and context of respondents' use of slang in more detail. Here some students answer to strengthen the student answer from this questionnaire:

“Personally, I think it will add comfort and also add so that we become more familiar again”

“Occasionally use slang when chatting with close friends.”

Based on the answers to the interviews above, it can be concluded that social distance and familiarity are factors that influence students to use slang because the more familiar they are, the more comfortable and often they will use slang, because indirectly slang makes them more intimate in communication.



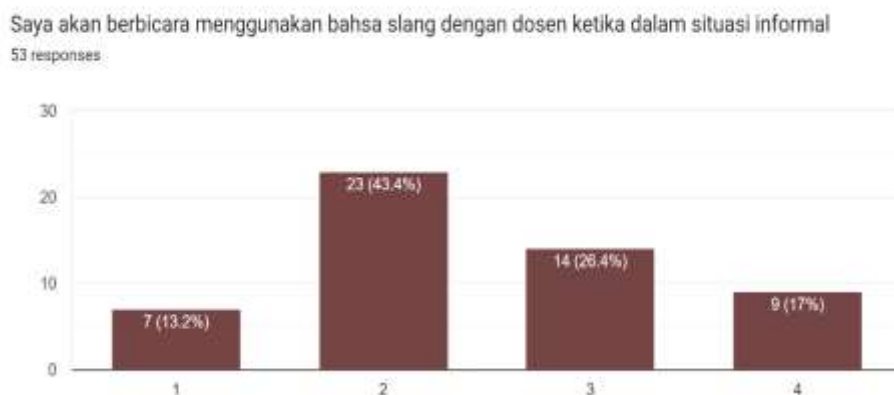
10. “I will speak slang with my lecturer when in an informal situation”

Based on the research results through questionnaire answers from 53 respondents, 7 students (13.2%) strongly agreed, while 23 students (43.4%) agreed to the statement "I will speak using slang with lecturers when in informal situations." A total of 14 students (26.4%) disagreed, while 9 students (17%) strongly disagreed. A total of 14 students (26.4%) disagreed, while 9 students (17%) strongly disagreed.

Despite the variation in responses, it should be noted that these results may not yet reflect a well-thought-out conclusion. To gain a more in-depth understanding, the researcher plans to continue this research through interview sessions with respondents. Here the students interview answer to strengthen the reason why they are using slang in informal situation:

“Ee I agree to use slang in informal situation, because maybe we want to create a more intimate atmosphere with the lecturer, of course, the face is limited by the ethics of how we talk to our elders, and maybe the lecturer wants to know how far we are in using the slang language itself.”

According to students answer above, students agree to use slang when talking with lecturer but in order get intimate atmosphere with lecture or people with different social status but it must be in accordance with existing ethics



11. “I use slang because of the media and popular culture.”

Based on the results of research through questionnaire answers from 53 respondents, 13 students (24.5%) strongly agreed, while 33 students (62.3%) agreed to the

statement "I use slang because of the influence of media and popular culture." Meanwhile, 7 students (13.2%) disagreed, and no respondents strongly disagreed. Meanwhile, 7 students (13.2%) disagreed, and no respondents strongly disagreed. Although the majority of respondents showed agreement towards the use of slang being influenced by media and popular culture, it should be noted that these results may not yet reflect a mature understanding. To gain deeper insights, the researcher will continue this study through interview sessions to explain in more detail the factors underlying the respondents' choice of slang. Here some students answer that found on interview to strengthen this Questionnaire:

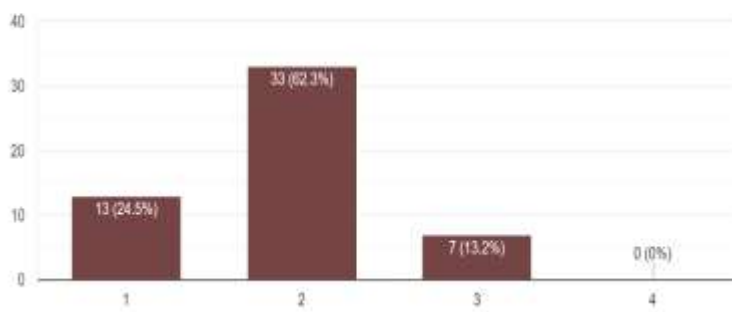
“Media and popular culture greatly influence, or have an important role in the use of slang itself, right now we watch films, listen to music, open Instagram, open TikTok, there are many examples of slang there”

”As we know now that social media is almost all social media platforms, of course there is a lot of language that uses slang, because it makes me learn the meaning of the word itself, so it makes me often use it in everyday speech.”

From the answer above researcher conclude that Sosial media is a main factor that influence them to use slang, because in social media there were a lot of language slang that use by people to communicate withs each other, social media also become a big plat form where slang is deployed.

Saya menggunakan bahasa slang karna pengaruh media dan budaya populer

53 responses



### **The Factors and students' perspective to use internet slang**

The researcher examines the elements that influence the usage of slang students during classroom interactions and student perspective toward the use of slang. According to St Marhana Rullu in her study, there are four factors in influencing style in communicating. They are social status, age, gender, social distance or familiarity and situation, and also from Walt Wolfarm theory that media and pop culture is the factor that influence the use of slang. And according to Suhardianto in his research there are three perspectives towards the use of slang by teenagers at Batam wich are: desire to appear cool, facilitate communication, conceal information from others.

First, the researcher will describe the results of the interview about the factors that cause students

to use slang as follows:

1. Factors that influence the use of slang

a. Social Status

In this study, social status is one of the factors causing the use of slang by students in classroom interactions. Slang by students in classroom interactions. In this case, the Interview answers below show students' reasons why social status is influential in the use of slang in communicating.

“IN: using slang when talking to lecturers or teachers it looks disrespectful, lacks respect, and shows my unprofessional attitude and is not in accordance with academic norms that exist in an academic environment”

“FR: Speaking using slang is indeed dependent on the person concerned or the person we are talking to, but we must pay attention to who we are talking to.”

“AU: I use slang language with students whose social status is different or higher than ours it is not polite because this slang language is right, slang language is the term or informal language so it would be better if we speak using this slang language with students our age or teenagers our age.”

Based on the interview answers from students at 4<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Education UIN Mataram, it can be concluded that the use of slang when talking to person with different social status, impolite, and reflects an unprofessional attitude. This is not in accordance with the academic norms that apply in an academic environment. Slang is also considered less appropriate for communicating with students of higher or equal social status, as it is considered slightly disrespectful. Therefore, we should avoid using slang in formal situations or communication with students of different social status, as slang tends to be informal.

b. Age

Age is the next factor that influences the use of slang in classroom interactions. Based on what students said in the third interview, these are the results:

”BA: Talking using slang with friends of the same age will feel more fun”

“NSR: I use sang with the same age, because peers understand slang better”

“IA: We can use slang language when talking to certain groups who have the same background as us, for example a class, and age”

The conclusion from this answer is student are fell more fun to talking with his friends with the same age using slang, and also, they are feeling more comfortable when talking to each other using slang, and the other reason is in the same old they are believing that they have a similar knowledge about slang so it makes them easier to talking and there will be no misunderstanding.

c. Social Distance and Familiarity

Another factors that influence student using slang while communication is Social Distance and Familiarity. According to the interview, the students concurred that their interactions in the classroom were influenced by their familiarity or social distance. Examining the pupils' statements from the interview provides proof bellow:

“IN: I use slang when I'm with my friends to show how close I am with my friends, because using slang language makes the conversation more relaxed and shows familiarity and how close we are.”

“NR: Because we can talk as casually as we like and the conversation can be more exciting and interesting.”

“ADA: I will use slang with students who are familiar with me, because it creates a comfortable, relaxed, and familiar atmosphere.”

From the answer above it can be conclude that social distance and familiarity is the factor that influence student using slang, because the closer the student is, the more intimate the language he or she will use.

d. Situation

The next factor that influences the use of slang is Situation, this proofed by student interview in down below:

“IN: if the lecturer allows or eee to make the atmosphere of communication more relaxed, using slang can make it more familiar, yes, it can depend on the lecturer, if for example we as students who eee start to speak using slang are less polite but if the lecturer allows and the lecturer invites first.”

“BA: Talking to lecturers with slang language in my opinion can feel familiar but in certain situations such as when the lecturer starts first.”

“FR: by talking using slang with lecturers, it will add to our familiarity with lecturers but of course in the context of certain situations, such as for example when outside the classroom, or crossing paths on the road, by using slang or informal language it is much more harmonious, or will add to the familiarity with lecturers.”

The conclusion from this answer is, student agree to talking with lecture or people with different social status, However, if the lecturer or that person allows them to use slang, they will use it, but do not forget the ethical boundaries and kind of slang sentences that are used

e. Media and Pop Culture

Last factor that influences the use of slang according to Walt Wolfram is Media and pop culture, down below student answered during interview about media and pop culture is the factor that influence them for use English slang:



“IN: Because slang is now widely accessible to us from any media from music, films, or lifestyles, and the self-expression of students who are on any social media, which is related to us, it makes a popular culture trend that is created”

NR: “Media and popular culture influence my use of slang because I learn a lot of vocabulary and slang terms from sources such as films, music, the internet and social media. And slang is one of the variations of language that reflects the development and richness of language itself.”

From the answer above it can be conclude that students use slang because of the factor of using social media, in those flat from they find many examples of slang, and it makes them interested in following pop culture by using slang when communicating.

### **Student Perspective Toward the Use of Slang**

Based on interviews that have been conducted by researchers, there are 3 perspectives of students in the use of slang language as explained by Suhardianto in his research.

#### **a. Desire To Appear Cool**

In using language students have the perspective that it looks cool, such as the following interview answers of several students:

“IN: I think the use of slang language looks cool because students who use this slang language know the latest trends, slang is the term.”

“IA: Using trendy language or slang look cool, because it indirectly shows that I know a new language, namely slang”

The conclusion from those answer is, a lot of people in this era using slang, so it will make us become trendy and look cool when we follow the trend for the example internet slang.

#### **a. facilitate communication**

Another students' perspectives are to facilitate communication, the following are students' answers regarding the reasons that make it easy to use slang for communication:

“BA: The short and easy vocabulary causes me to use slang, besides that I often hear slang so it is also easy to memorise.”

“NSR: Because it is more widely used, it is more fun while making it easier”

According to students answer from interview conclude that Slang is easy to use because a lot of slang word are short and slang found anywhere this era especially in social media.

#### **b. Conceal information from others**

“NR: Hiding something is also one of the perspectives of students in using slang, such as the following interview results:

The meaning from this student answer is; They use slang when talking to their friends and

with the aim of hiding their intentions with others.

## **F. Discussion**

### **1. Students' Knowledge About Internet Slang**

This Research show that there are still a number of 4th Grade Students who do not fully understand the concept of Internet Slang. On the contrary, some of them actually have difficulty in interpreting and understanding correctly what is meant by Internet Slang. Some of them even confuse Internet Slang with phrases, idioms, expressions and slang in Indonesian. Based on the answers from the respondents it turns out that not all students at 4th Grade English Language Education UIN Mataram know what English internet slang is, many of the 4th Grade English Language Education UIN Mataram students entered the wrong slang examples, some of them actually entered phrases for example; "I brought scrummy foods"; "Don't ask too many questions"; "Before you quit remember why are you"; "Ate and left no crumbs"; "Real hunk"; They also use some expressions such as "Ask your pardon" "Cheers, take it easy"; "What's up"; "She's really down to earth"; "Just drop it"; "No clue". There is also one idiom used by student, for example "Feel blue". Some even include Indonesian slang, for example "*Kuy*", "*brokap*", and "*sabi*".

### **2. The Factors and students' perspective to use internet slang**

The study identified four factors that influence the use of slang by lecturers and students during classroom interactions. In this study, the factors influencing slang use are social status, age, social distance of familiarity, and Media and Popular Culture

First factor is Social Status, Students at 4th Grade English Language Education UIN Mataram, said that the use of slang when talking to person with different social status, impolite, and reflects an unprofessional attitude. This is not in accordance with the academic norms that apply in an academic environment. In addition, the use of slang can make unfamiliar people feel uncomfortable, especially if they come from different social layers. Slang is also considered less appropriate for communicating with people of higher or equal social status, as it is considered slightly disrespectful. Therefore, we should avoid using slang in formal situations or communication with people of different social status, as slang tends to be informal.

Second Factor is Age, the use of slang in speaking is not only limited to close friends, but can also be used with peers who may not be personally known. The use of slang is considered to create a more familiar, relaxed, and fun relationship in communication, especially with people of the same age or generation. Slang is considered easier to understand by peers, as they have similar backgrounds and experiences. In addition, the use of slang can create a sense of comfort in communication, especially when talking to groups that have similar backgrounds, such as classmates or friends of the same age.

Third is Social distance of Familiarity, slang is mainly done when communicating with close friends to show closeness and familiarity. Slang is used to create a more relaxed, warm and familiar conversational atmosphere. Slang gives a more pleasant feel and shows the extent of the closeness of the relationship. In the context of familiar friends, the use of slang is considered normal and will not easily offend, so communication can take place more smoothly and interestingly. The use of slang is also considered a cool way to express oneself, while creating a more familiar, relaxed and intimate atmosphere in conversation.

Next is situation, the use of slang in communicating with lecturers is acceptable depending on the situation and permission from the lecturer. If the lecturer allows it and creates a more relaxed atmosphere, the use of slang can make communication more intimate. However, it is important to choose appropriate slang words and pay attention to the level of politeness, especially when talking to lecturers. Some discussion participants agreed that if the lecturer initiates the use of slang, they will probably respond by using slang as well.

The last factor is Media and Popular Culture, the popularity of slang can be seen as a direct result of the influence of media and popular culture. The current generation tends to adopt slang words and expressions encountered in their media, especially through digital platforms. Therefore, the use of slang in everyday conversations can be considered a natural response to the trends and influences generated by today's media and popular culture.

While There are three student perspective toward the use of slang, first is Desire To Appear Cool, Students consider the use of slang to be cool because it shows that they are following the latest trends. By using slang, they feel that they can improve their language level and show that they have a deeper understanding than people who do not use slang. In conclusion, the use of slang is considered as an effective way to showcase one's currentness, enhance one's image, and create a sense of coolness in daily conversations.

Second is Facilitate communication, students use slang because the vocabulary is short and easy to remember, slang makes it easy to communicate because it uses simple and quick phrases or words. In addition, because they often hear the use of slang around them, students find it easier to remember and apply slang in daily conversations

Last is to Conceal information from others students use slang to hide something or may feel more comfortable in presenting themselves in a less formal way and to hide something they talking about with other generation or another person.

After conducting the research, the researcher concluded that the factors that cause students to use slang are social status, age, social distance of familiarity, and situation, in line with what Marhana Rullu mentioned in her research, all of these factors' researchers found in Students at 4th Grade English Language Education UIN Mataram with the addition of one factor that Social Media and popular culture raised by Walt Wolfarm in his research.

## F. Conclusion

Conclusions can be formed from the previous chapter's results and discussions. The following conclusions are based on the study questions outlined in Chapter I

1. There are 3 students' perspective about the internet slang, first is desire to appear cool, second is facilitate communication, the last is conceal information from others
2. The factors that influence the use of Internet slang is social status, Age, Social distance of familiarity, Situation, and Media and popular culture.

Another finding from this research is turns out that students majoring in English education at 4th Grade UIN Mataram do not fully know what internet slang is.

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