

## **THE SLANG WORDS USED BY GEN Z MUSICIANS ON X**

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**ABSTRAK:** Riset ini mengeksplorasi bagaimana musisi Gen Z menghasilkan jati diri digital mereka sendiri serta ikut serta dengan inovasi bahasa masa saat ini lewat pemakaian perkata slang di web media sosial X (dulu dikenal sebagai Twitter). Riset ini memakai pendekatan sociolinguistik Allan & Burridge (2006) guna mengkategorikan bahasa gaul menjadi 5 tipe bersumber pada analisis 100 unggahan serta respon para musisi Gen Z: Fresh serta Kreatif, Flippant, Imitatif, Akronim, serta Clipping. Bahasa slang imitatif sangat kerap (40%), diiringi oleh fresh serta kreatif (21%), flippant (18%), akronim (15%), serta clipping (6%), memakai analisis konten kualitatif yang didukung oleh informasi deskriptif. Tiap kategori seperti humor, kebebasan berekspresi, menguatkan jati diri seseorang di dunia digital, kecepatan, serta menghasilkan jalinan interpersonal sesuai tujuan komunikatif mereka sendiri yang unik. Hasil temuan menampilkan metode musisi Gen Z memakai bahasa gaul digunakan untuk menentang kesepakatan sosial, membangun komunitas, serta meningkatkan modifikasi kata dalam area daring dan memakainya untuk ekspresi. Terakhir, riset ini menekankan bagaimana, dikala ini dalam lingkungan sosial digital, bahasa gaul mewakili salah satu dari 3 konsep, yakni: pemikiran kreatif, jati diri secara totalitas, serta ekspansi linguistik.

**Kata Kunci:** Kata Gaul, Musisi Gen Z, Media Sosial, Sociolinguistik, Ekspansi Linguistik, Identitas Digital.

**ABSTRACT:** *This study explores how Gen Z musicians create their own digital identities and engage with present-day language innovation through the usage of slang words on social media site X (formerly Twitter). The study uses Allan & Burridges' (2006) sociolinguistic approach to categorize slang into five types based on an analysis of 100 postings and responses: Fresh and Creative, Flippant, Imitative, Acronym, and Clipping. Imitative slang is most often (40%), followed by fresh and creative (21%), flippant (18%), acronym (15%), and clipping (6%), using qualitative content analysis backed by descriptive data. Each of the categories—humor, freedom of expression, developing one's identity, speed, and creating an interpersonal bond—serves their own unique communicative purpose. The findings indicate the way Gen Z musicians use slang to defy social conventions, build communities, and boost variety in online environments as well as to using it for expression. Lastly, the study emphasizes how, nowadays in digital society, slang stands for an important of three concepts: creative thinking, identity as a whole and linguistic expansion.*

**Keywords:** *Slang Words, Gen Z Musicians, Social Media, Sociolinguistics, Linguistic Expansion, Digital Identities.*

## INTRODCUTION

Slang words refer to casual language changes that are typically employed by individuals from the same social and cultural contexts. Slang words are most commonly used in unstructured communication, as well as an exclusive demographic and international reach, and is often skipped over in formal interaction because it is viewed to be silly or offensive. The slang words according to Holmes (2013), represent a type of vocabulary that develops inside of specific social circles and conveys informal or unstructured utilization of language. Slang words regularly carry meanings that are different from those derived from their accepted versions, thus becoming dynamic and dependent on the context. Slang words is further described by Khabib (2021) as quite informal vocabulary that has its roots in a speaker's spoken or native tongue. Slang words helps humans connect with fellow humans in order to avoid inequality in society by encouraging closeness and solidarity.

Depending on the usage and judgment, slang words can be regarded as either advantageous or disadvantageous (Mazer & Hunt, 2008). Positive slang improves engagement and presence, especially in informal spaces for learning, whereas a negative slang words, which is sometimes rude or sarcastic, may frustrate communication, particularly between adolescents and young adults. The key component of communication between individuals on social media platforms like X are slang words. Slang words was identified by Richards & Schmidt (2013) as non-standard language that is utilized informally during texting and conversation, which identification supported by Zhou & Fan (2013) that slang words include innovative terms and definitions that grow throughout time, some of them eventually breaking into popular expressions like "clever" or "naughty."

In digital environments, slang words has been an essential factor of communication, especially for adolescents and young adults. Slang words seems popular among young people on the internet as indicated by Liu et al. (2019), whereas Agha (2015) points out its connection to not enough represented or low-powered applications circles of society.

Slang words therefore gets frequently considered as offensive, inefficient, or controversial however, it explodes on platforms like X, when creative thinking and informality prevail. The purpose of this study is to explore the rapidly evolving linguistic environment by evaluating the question that follows for study: *what types of slang words do Gen Z use on X?*

### Previous Study

Prior before the current study, there were plenty of relevant research studies on the topic at hand. Rezeki & Sagala (2019) carried out their first analysis. Their research suggests that millennials use slang words on Instagram, Facebook, and many more social media platforms. The study used a descriptive qualitative approach to analyze the dataset. Considering they would rather use informal vocabulary than their native tongue, the millennial generation might neglect studying Indonesian in the future. A lack of identity might occur from the potential loss of the Indonesian language, causing individuals to start imitating the cultures of other countries instead of learning more about their native tongue.

Fattaut (2020) accomplished the second study. A descriptive qualitative approach was used in the investigation. According to his study, there are nine core slang words and forty-one auxiliary slang words. Following Partridge's (1979) theory of slang word usage, the BTS Army group on Twitter only employed seven of its functions. The BTS Army community viewed slang words as a modern and fashionable way to communicate. To boost communication and possibly even prevent outsiders around, they constructed a special lexicon that only members of their community used.

The third study was done by Hidayah (2021). Hidayah's study used a descriptive qualitative approach. Slang words, she stressed, are everyday phrases used in certain contexts. Words, phrases, or sentences that shift from standard usage and have multiple interpretations not clear to what generally goes with them are considered slang words. They may also be interpreted in several different ways. People commonly use slang words in living groups, video clips for music, cinema, and posts on social media. Slang words belong to the field of informal language and are categorized based on their past application and context within society. In contexts that are public, slang words and idiomatic must be provided in order to suit the restricted lexicon and particular topic

matter. A synonym expressions and phrases, as well as linguistic constraints, provide challenges for slang words.

The last research was carried out by Nuraeni & Pahamzah (2021). According to their research, varied slang words usage behavior in young people provide numerous results for all types of word. Acronyms delivered the most impressive result, with 33 words, or 37.93%. Clipping came in second with 25 words, or 28.75%. With 16 words, or 18.39%, imaginative and unique formation came in third. Compounding, with eight words and 9.19 percent, ended in fourth. Imitation came in last with five terms, or 5.74%.

The four preceding studies examined a number of motives why humans use slang words over social media, such as a demand for inventiveness and quickness in communication, along an identification with social identity, and involvement in the community. These studies bring insight into the motives behind the use of slang words in different circumstances.

### RESEARCH METHOD

Since systematic and accurate data collection is critical for the quality and trustworthiness of the findings, the research method is the most important component of this study. The main tool is documentation, which was chosen because it offers organized and reliable proof from online databases. To confirm the realness and transparency of the data, the researcher will use a laptop or smartphone to log in to X and gather posts in real time. The posts will be screenshotted to retain context, kept both written and interactive elements for comprehensive analysis.

Proper methods to gather data are necessary for guaranteeing the integrity of research, according to Creswell (2014), meanwhile Saunders et al. (2019) stress that methods must be in sync with the goals of the study and the type of data being collected. In order to analyze the slang words used by Gen Z on X, this study use documentation as a suitable method.

A coding approach founded on the theories of Allan and Burrige will be used to examine the data. Using the following codes, slang words will be divided into apart categories: Fresh and Creative (FC), Flippant (FL), Imitative (IM), Acronym (AC), and Clipping (CL). According to Saldaña (2015), coding is an essential point in qualitative research that helps uncover significant patterns. Furthermore, according to Creswell &

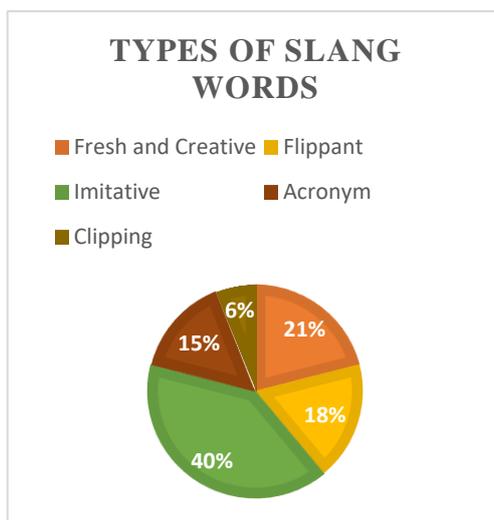
Poth (2018), coding improves analytical clarity, which makes the data easier to understand plus more sensible.

This study intends to provide an elaborate and trustworthy examination of slang words used by Gen Z musicians on X through the methodical utilization of documentation and organized coding. This methodology safeguards the reliability and preciseness of the study findings.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Results**

#### **Diagram Chart**



### **Discussion**

Slang words serves as a constantly changing linguistic phenomena that is influenced by digital, social, and cultural factors. Slang words becomes more than just an expression of style for Gen Z, who grew up in a time of social media, instant communications, and online unity. It is essential for creating communities, creating identities, and overcoming the difficulties of digital communication.

The graph that follows indicates the study's findings, which show considerable differences in Gen Z individuals' usage of slang categories. According to Allan & Burrige's (2006) sociolinguistic framework, the analysis centers around five primary types: fresh and creative (21%), flippant (18%), imitative (40%), acronym (15%), and clipping (6%). Slang words, according to Allan and Burrige, is a creative reaction to changing social conditions as well as a sign of a community's identity. It serves in order

to innovate language and strengthen in-group belonging by differentiating insiders from outsiders.

Every category captures different components of Gen Z's sociolinguistic conduct. At 40%, imitation slang is most common and is influenced by pop culture, music, and internet trends. This shows how language spreads through shared digital experiences and repetition. Slang words regarded as fresh and creative (21%) demonstrates Gen Z's originality and frequently bridges the emotional or sensory gaps that traditional terminology leaves. The 18% of flippant slang that portrays humor, sarcasm, and absurdity is frequently used to question conventions or disassociate oneself from weighty topics.

Acronyms (15%) and clipping (6%) emphasize Gen Z's inclination for informality and speed, which is consistent with the rapid-pace speed of digital platforms. These forms are ideal for online interactions because they emphasize communication that is clear and quick.

According to sociolinguistic theory, these slang words function as instruments for social connection, cultural participation, and identity expression. They demonstrate how language changes to accommodate new forms of communication while indicating knowledge and affinity. Overall, the results point to slang words as a characteristic of modern young people communication, indicating that Gen Z's usage of it reflection larger patterns in linguistic adaptation, social engagement, and digital fluency.

### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to better understand digital communication and identity creation, this study looked at the slang words used by Gen Z musicians on social media platform X. Slang words from 100 chosen posts and comments were found and grouped into five categories using Allan & Burridge's (2006) sociolinguistic framework: Fresh and Creative, Flippant, Imitative, Acronym, and Clipping. According to the distribution, imitative slang was the most popular (40%), followed by clipping (6%), flippant (18%), fresh and creative (21%), and acronym (15%).

The findings show that Gen Z musicians employ slang words as an important instrument to build audience connections, validate cultural identity, and develop their online personalities alongside to using it as a means of artistic expression. Every form

of slangwords has a distinct social purpose, including humor and feelings expressed to linguistic speed and rejection of societal conventions. The high number of imitative slang indicates a close commitment to pop culture and internet trends, indicating that Gen Z musicians are mindful of the evolving nature of online communication.

Additionally, the study shows how slang helps Gen Z musicians create and manage their online persona. These people help shape language in online environments by fusing creativity with communication goals. Their usage of slang defies established linguistic norms and shows a flexible, community-driven, and engaged manner of expression.

These findings pave the way for many different types of future studies and teaching methods. Further studies might tracking the development of slang words as time goes by or broaden the dataset to gain more profound understanding. Surveys or interviews with Gen Z musicians may provide further understanding into the intention of slang words usage and its function in online communication.

In terms of education, teachers ought to acknowledge digital media slang as an useful and appropriate part of modern language. Studying modern slang as part of a sociolinguistics or social media literacy curriculum might help close up the gap between generations and increase students' exposure to language use in everyday situations.

Slang words are much more than a passing linguistic fad; in the current digital environment, it represents creativity, uniqueness, and community. Language changes to reflect the demands, identities, and ideals of its users, as evidenced by the way Gen Z musicians use slang on X. The language used to characterize digital communication will expand along with it.

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