

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Language is a fundamental human communication tool that has been used for thousands of years. Humans cannot interact without language; language is typically employed for all types of actions in human life. The most significant function of human life in connection with others is to understand language as social work, and the evolution of language itself occurs through the evolution of human social life. Language, according to Chaer and Agustina (2014), is a medium of interaction used by people to transmit ideas, thoughts, concepts, and feelings. Language is traditionally regarded as a tool for engagement or communication, in the sense of expressing thoughts, ideas, concepts, or even feelings. It can be shown that human language development is required in numerous aspects of life, resulting in contemporary language variances in social life and social media. Because the usage of language in social situations changes frequently, a range of new vocabulary evolves, one of which can be described as slang.

Slang is a type of language that is commonly used in informal contexts by a group of people who are in similar situations or have similar interests. Slang, according to Allan and Burridge (2006), is an ordinary phrase that is inappropriate for formal speech. Slang is defined as a language that some individuals, particularly a specific community, find difficult to describe. To avoid mistakes in language growth, it is critical to first comprehend slang terminology. This means that slang is used in casual contexts, and people frequently use slang to communicate with

their friends or community, but it is not appropriate to communicate with parents in this manner. People may create slang on their own, usually to express how they feel, and these new terms are intended to express certain meanings. Slang, according to Holmes (2001), is a type of language that represents a person's age. Slang is also a privilege for young people, and it is uncommon among parents in general. These words were made as a means of communication for them, and only members of their tribe understand what they mean. In their group, they could use slang to each other, with some slang phrases considered unacceptable because they can lead to sex, violence, crime, and drugs. Slang is sometimes used to indicate social status; in some areas, the language of slang can also change depending on the race of the people speaking about it. Slang can now be found not only in everyday conversations, but also in movies, short stories, songs, the virtual world, and a variety of other places.

A song is a musical composition made up of sounds and melodies created by singing. Suhendi (2017) defines a song as "a form of human emotion expressed through writing or poetry and delivered with accompanied tones and rhythms into a beautiful song." A song can be thought of as a way to write something special with the sound of an instrument in order for it to become a song. Furthermore, according to Prasetia (2017), songs can improve listening comprehension, pronunciation, vocabulary acquisition, provide examples of grammar structures, train reading and writing, and raise students' cultural awareness. A song, according to all of the above definitions, is a musical work composed of words that can be sung by people anywhere and at any time. It can be used as part of an expression or

mood to aid in the development of learning memory. This is done to make a song seem more interesting and less formal. When we listen to music, we frequently come across lyrics that explain the meaning of the lyrics. Some people who speak English as a second language are often perplexed by the meaning contained in the lyrics of the song they are listening to. Because some of the lyric sections contain slang terms that are not commonly found in the English language.

Songs are a combination of music and lyrics. Many songs feature slang terms, including one by Ariana Grande on her album *Positions*. Ariana Grande's sixth studio album, *Positions*, was published by Republic Records on October 30, 2020. The *Positions* album was developed around the concepts of sexual intimacy, romantic attraction, and romantic commitment. All 14 songs were simultaneously registered on the Hot 100, with the second single, "34 + 35," charting. It peaked at number eight on the chart before rising to number two once a remix featuring Doja Cat and Megan the Stallion was released. The album was promoted in 2021 with a series of tracks offered by Vevo, and "POV" was issued as the third single on US radio.

Recently, Researcher have been interested in studying slang. These studies have conducted studies of the slang language in several focus studies. The first study was conducted by Yanti (2020), entitled "The Analysis of Slang Words In Bruno Mars's Album *24K Magic*". The study analyzed the types of slang words used in the lyrics of Bruno Mars' songs and their functions. Researcher used qualitative methodology, and Researcher used George Yule's 1998 theory.

Another study was conducted by Ulfah (2021), entitled "Sociolinguistic Study of Slang Words Used in TikTok Meme Videos". This study analyzed the types of slang words used on TikTok and identified their meanings. Researcher used qualitative methodologies, and Researcher used theories from Sumarsono (2007) and Mattiello (2008).

Arifien (2021) also conducted a study titled "Slang Words Used by Ariana Grande in the Dangerous Woman Album." The study looked at the different types of slang words used in Ariana Grande's lyrics and determined their meanings. This study employs qualitative methodology as well as the Allan and Burrige theory. (2006).

Reviewing previous studies on slang language, the differences from the three previous studies lie in the focus of the object; the researcher used the lyrics of Ariana Grande's song in the album "Positions". The second difference lies in the theory used; the Researcher used Mattiello's theory (2008). In addition, from previous studies above, the Researcher found a gap. The researcher attempted to develop research into the slang language by applying other theories, studying the type, meaning, and function of slang, and using all the characters. (Children, teenagers, and adults). So, the data obtained will be more complete compared to previous research. In addition, the study offers a solution as a way to study Ariana Grande's Positions album in depth. This makes a positive contribution to readers, as long as it can easily find the slang spoken by Ariana to be added to a new dictionary for readers. In addition, readers can also learn the types and meanings of slang and how to use it.

The researcher was interested in examining the slang phrases utilized in the lyrics of Ariana Grande's Positions 2020 album in this study. Ariana Grande was chosen by the study because she is an American musician who speaks English as a universal language. Furthermore, she began her first career in the entertainment industry in 2008, and since then she has influenced many people, both native and non-native English speakers, in a variety of ways, particularly through the way she conveys feelings, ideas, or thoughts through language, particularly words in American slang. The researcher then concentrates on the types and functions of slang terms, which are specifically investigated since they are more numerous and diversified than other media and people frequently encounter new slang phrases without understanding their types, meanings, and functions. As a result, the researcher attempts to identify the types of slang phrases and their functions that will be employed in everyday life in the future. Furthermore, understanding slang might reveal information about a person's disposition. People who understand the function of slang can choose and employ slang phrases based on settings and conditions when conversing with others. Finally, the researcher termed this study **"An Analysis of Slang Words in Ariana Grande's "The Positions Album"**".

1.2 Problems of The Study

The formula of the problems to be raised in this study, based on the background that has been outlined above, is as follows:

1. What are the types of slang words used in Ariana Grande's Positions album?
2. What are the functions of slang words in Ariana Grande's Positions album?

3. What are the dominant types and functions of slang words in Ariana Grande's Positions album?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

In relation to the above study problem, the research includes three main study objectives, which are as follows:

1. To find out the types of slang words used in Ariana Grande's the Positions album.
2. To find out the functions of slang words in Ariana Grande's Positions album.
3. To find out the dominant types and functions of slang words in Ariana Grande's the Positions album.

1.4 Significances of The Study

The researcher hopes this research can be useful and can help in some ways for readers to understand and enrich knowledge about functions, types, and new terms of slang words through lyrics from the Ariana Grande Positions album.

Theoretically, the results of this research are expected to be a reference for a wide range of linguistic fields. Because of the difficulty of finding books and references to slang words, even on online book pages, they are still rare.

Practically. For readers, the results of this study are expected to provide an understanding of slang words or expressions, especially for students of English literature. As prospective teachers, this research is hoped to help in a number of ways, such as improving the use of sling words in the teaching and learning process to get better conversations in the classroom. Besides, after reading this, the teacher can have additional knowledge resources to teach the process of word formation

and function slang. For other Researcher, the results of this study are hoped to enrich and facilitate references for similar research in the future.

1.5 Limitation of The Study

Ariana Grande has released six studio albums, two EPs, and one compilation album. The research focuses on the album Positions, released on October 30 2020 which contains 14 songs. The Researcher then focus on the slang word used in the lyrics of Ariana Grande's album Positions.

