CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Human beings are social beings who are always commit to a certain group of people. They live together and form a social community or a larger scope of society. Members of society interact with one another in many fields. One of the primary means used in this interaction is language. By using language, people can express feelings, hopes, ideas, experiences, thoughts, and wants (Wardaugh, 2006). When two or more people communicate with each other in speech, we can call the system of communication that they employ a code. In most cases, that code will be something we may also want to call language. Language as a social phenomenon that is a means of communication among people (Hoffmann, 2014).

Language is thus a product of active human consciousness working in well-defined social groups. Society and language are easily identified by each other and are

quite interdependent. Each society builds its language according to its specific requirements, and the language, in turn, affects society and paves the way for change in future societies. Language change is often marked by the change and development of the social and cultural atmosphere in which language changes appear slowly but surely (Chaturvedi, 2015).

Related to the use of language in a society, one of the sciences that can explain language is sociolinguistic. Sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between society and language. Sociolinguistics deals with the characteristics of language varieties (Trudgill, 2000). Sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language and culture to provide a more in-depth understanding of language structure and how languages function in a community. Language has many varieties. Therefore, the researcher concluded that sociolinguistics is the study of language that is related to society, its functions, and the use of language itself.

In one language, there can be variety and dialect, which both can make new words, such as words. Globally, many people produce it, even from the eldest to the youngest, from high class or low class, with higher education or lower education. Also, the development of technology and the introduction of foreign cultures influence the lives of teenagers. It looks like how the people get dressed and how they communicate daily. Since then, people have learned many new words, and this situation influences their language style.

However, there are two aspects in which language behavior is important from a social point of view. The first is the function of language in establishing social relationships, and the second is the role played by language in conveying information about the speaker (Trudgill, 2000). In the study of language, it can be seen that there are various languages in society. Nevertheless, there is an idealized variety of language which exists for most people as the accepted version of the official language in their community. This is called standard language. On the other hand, some non-standards are used in situations other than formal ones and are usually spoken by the uneducated. One of them is slang.

Slang is a component of the spoken language but by no means a "corrupt" form of language in any grammatical or structural sense (Bolozky, 2007). It consists of a separate register within the colloquial that stands out primarily because of its unusual nature, reflecting the desire of a well-defined group of speakers to express themselves uniquely by defying convention and breaking taboos.

Another example is that the durability of words varies greatly between standard English and slang (Heiman, 1967). Rarely do slang terms come into being without conforming to traditional principles of word origin. Whoever creates or uses such expressions to color his speech is often unknowingly exhibiting one of many slangs' standard principles of language formation.

For example, "yuk – yuk, whammo, slurp," "a tick – tock," and "buzz, bang, bhirr, bizz, the bees, knees, longgone, a booboo, hankie-pankie."In standard, "*Piggly Wiggly, zig-zag, pitterpatter, walkie-talkie"*. In slang (*"plow jockey," "egghead, "brain trust," "hillbilly. standard, blackberry, cupboard, stone wall, soap opera"*. In slang, *"a hood, a college, specks, biochem, and, of course, Hey, teach."* In standard, *"gym, taxi, math, bus"*. In slang, *"to stomach (from the noun form), to bug (from the noun form), a find (from the verb form), the ins and outs (from the adverb forms)"*. In standard, *"to stone, to ink, to paper, to bridge (all from the noun forms)"*. words through the affixing of prefixes and suffixes, *"Having forgotten several items, I found I had to go-reKroger ing"*. "TV, SNAFU, OK, UNCLE," in slang, in standard *"CARE, NATO, UN, SNCC"*.

The slang language also has a function in society. One of them is to share interests, concerns, beliefs, and activities of other participants who take on common conversational topics and related areas for discussion.

More often, slang serves social purposes, such as, to identify members of a group, to change the level of discourse in the direction of informality, to oppose established authority. Sharing and maintaining a constantly changing slang vocabulary aids group solidarityand serves to include and axclude members. The role that slang has in society is that represents a person's background, education, belief, etc. It's the way certain people have twisted languages to mean new things that were not previously defined. Slang can represent emotions that are hard communicate to others. We can hear people use slang language in schools, the market, workplaces, and homes. Slang words can also be used in movies, dramas, novels, webtoons, comics, and social media.

The movie has become one of the most influential media that keeps offering the newest slang language. It is used to acknowledge and learn slang language. By watching movies and

through their storyline, the viewers can gain many advantages, such as entertainment, information, knowledge, and most probably life lessons.

A movie is a complex form of art due to the language used as the main element to convey the messages to the audience. However, some expressions are difficult to translate into another language because they are peculiar to that language. It is the reason why the researcher will specifically analyze slang words in the movie. The title of the movie that the researcher will analyze is Clueless. It is an American high school romantic comedy film written and directed by Amy Heckerling. First debuted in theatres on July 19th, 1995, and became a major box-office hit. The storyline is based on Jane Austen's 1815 novel "Emma", with a modern-day setting of Beverly Hills.

To analyze the slang words in the movie Clueless by Amy Heckerling, the researcher will use the theory of Holmes (2013). Holmes defines sociolinguistics as the examination of the interplay between language and society. This field delves into how language is influenced by and influences its surrounding context. In essence, sociolinguistics explores the connection between language use and the communities and social elements within societies, encompassing the nuances of utterances within these contexts (Deby Rahmawati et al., 2019). This study aims to identify and analyze the slang words that were used in the movie Clueless by Amy Heckerling It also aimed to identify and analyze the slang words' functions through their characters, and lifestyles.

Based on the study background above, the researcher finds some slang words that are real reflections and interesting to study. The choice to integrate the film "Clueless" into the research title stemmed from a captivating exploration of pop culture's influence on societal perceptions and behaviors. Researchers recognized the timeless relevance of "Clueless" as a cultural touchstone, portraying the lives of affluent high school students in the 1990s. By analyzing the film's impact on attitudes, language, and social dynamics, the study aimed to

unravel the intricate web connecting media representations to real-world attitudes and behaviors. With its distinctive blend of humor, fashion, and social commentary, "Clueless" provided a rich tapestry for researchers to scrutinize, offering unique insights into the shaping and reflecting of societal norms through the lens of popular culture. Therefore, the movie Clueless by Amy Heckerling is chosen as the object of the study, and the title of this study is *"An Analysis of Slang Words in the Movie Clueless."* It presents the types and the meaning of slang words that are reflected in the movie.

1.2 Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the problems of the study as follows:

1. What are the function of slang words used by the characters in the movies Clueless?
2. What are the contextual meaning of slang words used by the characters in the movies Clueless?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the problems of study above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the function of slang words used by the characters in the movies Clueless.
2. To find out how the contextual meaning of slang words used by the characters in the movies Clueless.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study was be beneficial for the future writers who are interested in conducting a similar topic of study, this study is expected to be useful:

1. This thesis aims to explore the function of slang words used by the characters in the movie "Clueless." By analyzing the dialogue and interactions within the film, the researcher seeks to uncover the various purposes served by the utilization of slang

language, such as establishing social identity, expressing camaraderie, or conveying attitude and emotions.

2. The objective of this research is to investigate the contextual meaning of slang words employed by the characters in the movie "Clueless." Through careful examination of the scenes and situations in which these slang terms are used, the study aims to elucidate how the context influences the interpretation and significance of such language, shedding light on the nuanced nuances of communication within the film's sociolinguistic framework.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

The primary objective of this investigation is to delve into the function of the slang words used by the characters in the movie "Clueless." Through a detailed examination of the film's dialogue and interactions, the researcher seeks to identify and categorize the various types of slang vocabulary employed by the characters. Additionally, the study aims to elucidate the specific roles and purposes served by these slang terms, whether in establishing social dynamics, expressing identity, or enhancing comedic elements within the narrative. Furthermore, the research endeavors to shed light on how the contextual meaning of these slang words is manifested through their usage, providing insights into the intricate relationship between language, social context, and narrative elements within the cinematic framework of "Clueless."