

## The Use of Slang Word in the Movie "F9": The Fast Saga

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### Abstract

Slang is a casual spoken language that always is used in daily conversation. Slang is used to build a close relationship with friends, family, or peers. People tend to use slang language because slang is shortened words to help people access information easier and faster. Therefore, this present study is urgent to investigate the use of slang words in the movie entitled F9: The Fast Saga (2021). This movie was released in 2021 it is worth investigating the new slang words used in this current year. The data of the study was obtained by analyzing F9 The Fast Saga Movie script. The technique of obtaining data was non-participatory video research which help the researcher to be more objective in the research. The result of this study was analyzed and categorized into several types of slang language based on Allan and Burridge's (2006) theory. The result of this study revealed that there were four types of slang used in the movie "F9: The Fast Saga". Those four types were flippant, imitative, clipping, and fresh and creative. These types of slang have specific functions and meaning to express ideas, thought, expression, and opinion. In addition, this current study is expected to contribute to the literature on the use of slang language. Also, it might contribute to improving and enriching EFL learners' vocabulary knowledge and their morphological awareness of skills.

**Keywords:** Slang language, movie, type of slangs language

### 1. Introduction

Language is human communication that is used by people to communicate with each other, either spoken or written (Juniar & Lubis, 2021). In communication language, there are two specific types of language that humans create and utilize to serve different purposes, such as formal and informal language. Formal and informal types of language can be identified from the use of vocabulary, grammar, and word order. Formal language is designed for professional and academic purposes, such as formal speech, formal business presentations, or formal events (Juniar & Lubis, 2021). While informal language is designed for more casual conversation in interacting with friends, family, or peers (Xu & Li, 2013). Xu and Li (2013) supported that the communicators who utilize informal language become more proactive.

This shows that language plays an important role to exchange information conveying messages or build a nice relationships with other people. Maulana and Rosa (2013) pinpointed that without language communication, people tend to feel difficult to interact and communicate with each other. Xu & Li (2013) proposed that the use of informal language can help communicators to access information much faster, easier, and more straightforward than formal language. Therefore, people started to create and use informal language rather than formal language. Informal language is considered slang language that is widely and commonly used in daily communication (Rachmijati, 2015).

Furthermore, Agsa and Ambalegin (2020) stated that slang is defined as an abbreviation of a shortened word such as "lol (Laugh of loud)", "gws (get well soon)", and "wuatb (wish you all the best)". Agsa and Ambalegin (2020) further stated that the use of slang term words can be different from one region to another. Hence, the term American slang will be different from the term British slang. Each region or country has its characteristics. Generally, most countries have their characteristic slang terms in their language. For instance, in Indonesian, most people used slang words such as "baper (too emotional)", "woles (slow down)", "kepo (nosy)", "mager (too lazy to move)", "sotoy (know-it-all)", and so forth. Those slang words can be easily found in daily conversation. Some English slang words are also used by Indonesian such as "tbh (to be honest)", "lemme (let me)", "asap (as soon as possible)", "hbd (happy birthday)" and many more. Moreover, some slang words are rarely used by Indonesian such as Gucci (good or cool), lit (amazing), dope (awesome), and snatched (fashionable). The Indonesian feel difficulty pronouncing this kind of slang word.

Regarding this, Manurung et al. (2020) claimed that slang term words are not only used in daily conversation but it is also utilized in song lyrics and movies used by the characters. Several previous studies had been investigating previously about the use of slang words in the area of songs (Puspitorini, 2019; Sakinah, 2017) and the area of American movies (Juniar & Lubis, 2021; Krisdianka et al., 2019; Putrawan et al., 2020). To begin with, Puspitorini (2019) who analysed the use of slang words in Bruno Mars' lyrics found that there were 5 slang words in the lyrics based on George Yule Book 1998 type of slang words. Those slang words were blending (shoulda, gonna, gotta), clapping ('till, darling', thang), borrowing (Flatbush), coinage (babe, mothefucker), and acronym.

A similar study conducted by Sakinah (2017) who analysed Meghan Trainor's song found that there were 3 slang words based on the classification in the lyric such as clipping ('head, bein', movin', lovin', 'cause), blending (gonna, gotta, tryna, I'mma), and coinage (babe, booty, momma, bass). In the area of the movies, Putrawan et al. (2020) investigated a movie script entitled "Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle". This study aims to analyse American slang words used in the movie. This study found that flippant is the most slang type used in the movie script. Flippant is known as irrelevant words of the context. Another study conducted by Krisdianka et al. (2019) investigated the use of slang words used in "Black Panther" American

movie. This study aims to figure out the types of the slang word and analyse the meaning of slang words used in the movie. In addition, Agsa and Ambalegin (2020) conducted a study focused on analysing the form of slang words in “Kingsman: The Golden Circle” movie. The result of the analysis showed that the slang terms are categorized based on the type of slang such as slang terms in figurative expressions, nicknames, interjection, and shortened forms. However, Allan and Burridge (2006) proposed the present study intended to explore the use of slang words based on the classification.

Considering the previous studies described above, this present study analyzed the slang words from the newest movie entitled “F9: The Fast Saga” American Movie. It is worth investigating and analyze because of some reasons. First, the previous studies have seldom been investigated the use of slang words based on the types of slang words. Second, this study used the newest movie which was released in 2021. It is crucial to analyze new slang words that occur in this current year. Lastly, this study could contribute to the usage of slang language literature to provide examples of slang words used by English for Foreign Language (EFL) learners. It is expected to help them improve their morphological awareness of skill and vocabulary knowledge.

To fill the gaps in this study, this study proposes the following research questions:

### **1.1 Research questions**

To fulfill the gap in this study, there are two research questions formulated as follow

1. What are the types of American slang used by the main character in “F9: The Fast Saga” movie?
2. What is the meaning of American slang words used in the “F9: The Fast Saga” movie?

## **2. Review of Literature**

### **2.1 The function of slang language in communication.**

There are some functions of slang language in communication. Juniar and Lubis (2021) and Rachmijati (2015) proposed that the functions of slang language are divided into two functions such as the language and society function, and the general function. Slang language plays an important role in casual spoken language (Dewi et al., 2018; Namvar, 2014). Naeem (2010) in Dewi et al. (2018) claimed that “language known as a social-cultural-geographical phenomenon”. It showed that there is an integration between language and society which is called sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics is defined as the study of language and society. Studying language and society may bring some benefits such as establishing good social relationships and conveying information about the communicators (Juniar & Lubis, 2021; Muhartoyo & Wijaya, 2014).

Moreover, Allan and Burrige (2006) pointed out that there are several general functions of slang terms as follows: 1) people use slang language to access information much faster and easier because slang is an efficient way of conveying information, thoughts, and feelings 2) slang usually used to express and share the emotional expressions such as swearing swearwords and yelling rude words. 3) To show intimacy, people prefer to use slang language to indicate that they have a close social relationship with their friends.

## 2.2 Types of Slang Language

Allan and Burrige (2006) claimed that "slang often uses metaphor or ellipsis". According to Allan and Burrige (2006), there were five types of slang terms, as described in this below:

a. Flippant

Flippant indicate that slang language is made by two or more words term in which the word collected is not related to the denotative meaning. An example of a Flippant word breaks a leg which has the meaning "good luck". The slang word originated from folk etymology and provides the example content of John Wilkes as an American actor who murdered President Abraham Lincoln.

b. Clipping

Removing several parts of longer words become a shorter word with the same meaning is called clipping form. This form is only used in casual conversation, it is not appropriate to use informal conversation context. An example of a clipping word is "cuz" which has the meaning "because".

c. Acronym

It is a word formed from the first initial letter in the longer name of something into a phrase. Also, it is made by the first initial of a group word. When the group of words is pronounced, it pronounced the word as a new word. An example is a RADAR which is the acronym for "Radio Detection and Ranging".

d. Imitative

An example of an imitative slang word is "shit". This is a slang word refers to a phrase to express a bad situation. The example showed that the imitative slang words formed and used the Standard English words with different meanings or integrated two distinct words.

e. Fresh and creative

It is formed from different vocabulary to explain something in an informal setting. There are some examples of fresh and creative slang words such as buddy, guys, and folks which are used to address friend or companion.

## 3. Methods

The present study used the descriptive analysis method. It is used to analyze the existing data. Lambert and Lambert (2012) stated that the descriptive analysis method focused on summarizing, describing, and analyzing the existing data. Lambert and Lambert (2012) further stated that "qualitative descriptive research is

purely data-derived in that codes are generated from the data in the course of the study (p.256). The data of this study were obtained from an American movie script entitled "F9: The Fast Saga" movie. The movie is just released in 2021 and it is an action movie directed by Justin Lin. Furthermore, this study used the content analysis method. Setyadi and Ekawati (2021) pointed out content analysis is used to investigate books, magazines, speech, and movies. This study used the movie as a data source. According to Setyadi and Ekawati (2021), the movie includes one of the data sources that utilize the non-participatory video observation technique. Virginia and Ambalegin (2021) stated that utilizing non-participatory video observation helps the researcher to be more objective

Before analyzing the data, there are several steps used in obtaining data. First, the researcher downloaded the movie script. After downloading the movie script, the second step was reading and watching the movie. The researcher read the script while watching the movie to find out the slang words used by the actors in the movie. The third step was taking some notes and starting to analyze the slang words to classify the data based on the theory. The last but not least, the data were analyzed and categorized into several types of slang language based on Allan and Burrige (2006)'s theory.

#### 4. Findings and Discussion

This present study result was divided into two parts, the first part is to answer research question 1 which is identifying and classifying the type of slang words used, and the second one is to answer research question two which is analysing the meaning of American slang language used by the characters in the "F9: The Fast Saga" movie. This present study found that there were 4 types of slang language based on Allan and Burrige (2006) theory in the "F9: The Fast Saga" movie.

The result of the data is presented in the following table below.

Table 1. Type of Slang Language in the "F9: The Fast Saga"

| No | Type of slang      | Data  |
|----|--------------------|---|
| 1  | Flippant           | <i>What the hell, where the hell, ass, pretty boy, how in the hell, give a hand, got it, twinkie, asshole. (And use italic font to indicate some terms after that to make the table align left)</i> |
| 2  | Imitative          | <i>Shit, damn, bitch</i>  |
| 3  | Fresh and creative | <i>Guys, buddy, fellas</i>  |
| 4  | Clipping           | <i>'cause, gonna, gotta, 'em, 'ain't</i>  |

##### 4.1. Flippant

In the dialogues in the movie script "F9: The Fast Saga", it found that there are ten slang words that expressed flippant type. In this study, flippant type is defined as a grouping of slang words that consist of two or more two words, however, the words do not have any relation to the literal meaning. As can be seen in table 1, the

slang words found in the movie are what the hell, where the hell, ass, pretty boy, how in the hell, give a hand, got it, twinkie, and asshole.

**Data 1**

Slang : "What the hell is this?" (00:15:031)

This is one of the expressions of flippant slang words which can be found in the scene when Mia found a safe deposit black box. She said, "what the hell" to express her feeling of surprise or wonder about the safe deposit black box. The slang word "what the hell" is used to show the expression of wonder when a person finds something unknown.

**Data 2**

Slang : "Where the hell are you?" (00:17:19)

The slang words "where the hell" can be found at the scene when Tej drives a car and he is asking about Roma's location. The slang word "the hell" is an expression of exclamation which used to emphasize surprise, anger, and shock.

**Data 3**

Slang : "Settle down, pretty boy!" (00:02:02)

The slang words "pretty boy" can be found in the scene when Dominic tried to calm his kid. The word "pretty boy" is addressed to his kid who is a boy. This slang word meaning is not a boy who has a pretty face, but this word addresses the young man.

**Data 4**

Slang : "My ass is en fuego!" (00:20:18)

The word "ass" can be found in the scene when Ramsey asks about Roman's condition. Roman answered that his ass is en fuego. The slang word "my ass is en feugo" means that Roman's buttocks are burned. It indicated that the word "ass" is used to show one of the human parts of the body.

**Data 5**

Slang : "How in the hell, are you not dead?" (00:21:47)

This slang word has the same meaning as the other slang words such as where the well and what the hell. The slang word "how in the hell" here showed that Ramsy feels surprised and shocked when she sees Roman has not died yet. It means the word "how in the hell" used to show the expressions of wonder or shock.

**Data 6**

Slang : "Want to come and give us a hand?" (00:05:43)

The slang word "give a hand" addresses that to help or to assist someone. This slang word can be found in the scene when Mia comes to Roman and the boy and Roman asks her whether she wants to help them or not.

**Data 7**

Slang : "Yeah, I got it!" (00:41:27)

The slang word "got it" can be found in the scene when Ramsy explains something to Roman, and he understands what Ramsy is explaining. Then roman said, "got it". The slang word "got it" is used to address an expression of understanding something.

#### **Data 8**

Slang : "Twinkie?" (00:56:25)

The slang term "twinkie" is found in the scene when there are two guys ask the other two guys "you are afraid of flying?", and one guy said "twinkie". The slang term "twinkie" is used as a nickname to address close friends. On the other hand, in a different context, the slang word "twinkie" is used to express extreme emotion or the synonym is freak out.

#### **Data 9**

Slang : "At least I'm alive, asshole." (00:31:01)

The slang word "asshole" is found in the scene when a guy is showing his expression of annoyance and he said to another guy that at least he is still alive, asshole. The slang word "asshole" is one of the vulgar words in American slang words. When someone uses these slang words, it addresses someone who is doing stupid or annoyed.

### **4.2. Imitative**

In the movie script "F9: The fast Saga", this study found there are three words that are considered imitative types of slang. Imitative slang is defined as the combination of words that fully imitate the originated words such as damn, shit, and bitch.

#### **Data 10**

Slang : "oh, damn!" (01:48:16)

The slang term "damn" is found at the scene when twinkie realized that they do not have an air leak. He used the term "damn" to express his feeling of anger toward something. Moreover, the slang word "damn" is used when someone wants to express a feeling of surprise or disgust.

#### **Data 11**

Slang : "Oh, shit!" (00:25:02)

This slang term can be found in the scene when someone collides with Dominic's car and Dominic muttered an expression of anger which is he says "shit". The slang word "shit" is used to describe the emotional feeling toward a bad situation. The word "shit" imitates the originated noun word "scite" which has a meaning of "quite literally".

#### **Data 12**

Slang : "and I am still waiting for a bitch to check?" (02:18:22)

The slang term "bitch" is found in the movie soundtrack. This slang word is used to express a rude expression when someone says something rude or stupid. Besides showing the rude expression, the slang word "bitch" is also used to describe a feeling of anger, fear, and excitement. The word "bitch" imitates the originated word "a female dog".

#### 4.3. Fresh and Creative

Among all the dialogue in the movie “F9: The Fast Saga”, there are several slang words such as Guys, buddy, fellas which are considered fresh and creative types of slang. Fresh and creative is used in casual spoken language to communicate with friends, family, or peers.

##### Data 13

Slang : “Guys, we got a little company!” (00:39:33)

This slang word “guys” can be found when Tej is calling his friends to inform of good news to them. The slang word “guys” is used to call a friend or someone in a casual way.

##### Data 14

Slang : “I know you did the best, you could, buddy!” (00:52:11)

This slang word “buddy” can be found in the scene when someone gives support to Dominic. The word “buddy” in Indonesian means “sahabat or sobat”. People tend to use these slang words when they speak with their close friends or close family. Moreover, the word “buddy” is also used to address a person who wants to call someone but does not know his name.

##### Data 15

Slang : “Hey, Fellas” (00:56:45)

This slang word “fellas” has the same function as the other fresh and creative slang words such as buddy, guys, folks, and so forth. These slang words are used to address someone close to us.

#### 4.4. Clipping

This present study identified several slang words in the movie which can be classified as clipping type of slang. There are ‘cause, gonna, gotta, ‘em, ain’t.

##### Data 16

Slang : “ ‘cause he did not like their ears” (01:17:22)

The slang word “ ‘cause” is one of the shortened word forms of because. This slang word is used to show the cause and effect of something.

##### Data 17

Slang : “I’m gonna tail him” (01:18:32)

The slang word “gonna” is classified in shortened word form. This is the slang word that refers to the phrase “going to”. This slang word is used to express and talk about something that is going to happen in the future.

##### Data 18

Slang : “Guys, get over here. Yu gotta come to see this!” (00:40:50)

The slang word “gotta” is also classified as shortened word form which has the meaning “have to” or in the other word is “must”. This slang word is used to express a necessity to do or to see something.

##### Data 19

Slang : “You trust ‘em?” (01:36:51)

This slang word “ ‘em” is classified as a shortened word that means “them”.



The word “them” refers to the object of a plural pronoun.

#### Data 20

Slang : “The area’s lacking down. He ain’t using roads.” (01:18:01)

This slang word “ain’t” is classified as shortened word form. The slang word “ain’t” is the shortened word form of “am not, is not, and are not”. It depends on the subject. This slang word is usually used in casual conversation.

#### 5. Conclusion

This study investigated the use of slang words in the movie “F9: The Fast Saga”. This study showed that the characters in F9 the fast saga movie had employed slang language in several types of slang such as flippant, clipping, imitative, and fresh and creative types. There were 20 slang words found in the movie “F9: The Fast Saga”, there were 9 slang words classified as flippant, there were 3 slang words classified as imitative, there were 3 slang words classified as fresh and creative, there were 5 slang words classified as clipping. These slang words have a different meanings that indicated some expressions such as expressions of anger, surprise, wonder, contentment, fear, and excitement. Moreover, there are some slang words that the researcher found showing shortened words form such as gotta, gonna, ‘em, ‘cause, tryna, and ain’t. These shortened words form could be used in daily conversation. To help students to use slang words appropriately, the linguistic teachers need to add students’ American vocabulary knowledge by asking them to watch American movies. Therefore, this present study was conducted to provide examples of cultural usage of American slang words English for English teachers and EFL learners.

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