

AFFIXED SLANG WORDS IN THE FILM ARGANTARA BY FALISTIYANA AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the forms of teenage language in the film Argantara, the factors influencing its use, and the implications of the findings for Indonesian language instruction in senior high schools (SMA). A qualitative approach with a descriptive method was employed. The data source consisted of the characters' dialogue in the film *Argantara* by Falistiyana. Data were collected using the *simak bebas libat cakap* (uninvolved observation) and note-taking techniques, analyzed using the intralingual equivalent method, and presented using the informal method. The results identified 42 data points: 9 prefixed words (2.25%), 3 suffixed words (7.14%), 8 full reduplications (19%), 3 acronyms (7.14%), and 2 abbreviations. Slang forms included prefixed words (2 data points; 4.76%) and suffixed words (2 data points; 4.76%), as well as reduplications (5 data points, all full reduplications; 11.90%). *Alay* (youth-specific stylized) language forms included prefixed words (2 data points; 4.76%) and suffixed words (3 data points; 7.14%), as well as reduplications (3 data points, all full reduplications; 7.14%). These findings have implications for Indonesian language instruction in senior high schools, specifically regarding the drama text curriculum for Grade XI (Phase F). The research findings can serve as alternative teaching material to help students understand teenage language usage, identify implied meanings, and apply critical thinking skills when comprehending and creating drama texts.

Keywords: Teenage language; Arganatarata Film; implications for Indonesian language learning;

1 INTRODUCTION

Language is a tool for communication among members of society, consisting of sound symbols produced by the human speech apparatus (Keraf, 1997:1). Consequently, language serves as a means for cooperation and communication, as well as a medium for conveying ideas or emotions to others; the use of language ensures that the communication process proceeds smoothly. Today, the languages dominating social life are not limited to regional languages alone; rather, there are various linguistic shifts driven by rapid societal evolution.

Various linguistic styles exist within society, employed by different generations for everyday communication. The dominant style is known as bahasa gaul (slang); this form of language evolved from the *prokem* slang of the 1980s (Balqis et al., 2023). *Bahasa gaul* is primarily used by specific groups, typically among teenagers.

Slang is a form of language variation that evolves within society, particularly among teenagers. According to Chaer and Agustina (2014), language variations emerge due to differences in speakers, usage situations, and the functions of language in communication. One such variation is slang—a non-standard language variety used in casual settings to foster rapport, signal group identity, and keep pace with social and cultural developments. In its evolution, slang is formed not only through word shortening or the adoption of new terms but also through morphological processes such as affixation.

Affixation is the process of word formation involving the addition of prefixes, suffixes, infixes, confixes, or simulfixes to a base form (Kridalaksana, 2008). In slang, the affixation process often undergoes structural adjustments, resulting in non-standard words that remain intelligible to speakers based on the context.

The use of slang featuring affixed words is frequently found in film dialogue, such as in Falistiyana's film Argantara. The dialogue between characters in the film illustrates the use of teenage slang that reflects everyday life. Affixed slang words serve to intensify expressions, demonstrate interpersonal closeness, and establish characters that align with the social context of teenagers. Consequently, the meaning of these affixed words cannot be grasped solely from their morphological form; rather, one must consider the underlying conversational context and communicative situation. While extensive research has been conducted on slang, most studies focus primarily on types, meanings, or functions,

without linking them to Indonesian language learning within the realms of social media or daily conversation.

The results of this study are expected to be applied to Indonesian language instruction for Grade XI students, specifically regarding the topic of drama texts. The findings can serve as a reference for using affixed slang words as a linguistic element in story writing. When used appropriately and in the right context, affixed slang words can clarify dialogue, strengthen characterization, and create a relaxed atmosphere. Consequently, the story becomes more vivid, communicative, and accessible to readers.

2 METHODOLOGY

This study employs a qualitative approach, as the presentation of the processed data involves analyzing excerpts from the film *Argantara* that contain affixed words, which are then described narratively. Suyuti (2019) explains that a qualitative approach involves research findings in the form of sentences or narratives gathered through qualitative data collection techniques. Consequently, the researcher is able to obtain more detailed data in the form of descriptive explanations.

The data collection for this study utilizes the *simak bebas libat cakap* (SLBC or "non-participatory observation"—technique combined with a note-taking method. The SLBC technique was chosen because the data was obtained by observing the film *Argantara* to identify instances of slang featuring affixed words. Once the data was collected, the note-taking method was used to record and classify these affixed slang words found in the film.

The analysis employs the intralingual equivalent method. According to Mahsun (2017:116), the intralingual equivalent method is an analytical approach that compares linguistic elements within a single language or across multiple different languages. During the analysis, the interpretation of affixed word forms takes into account the context in which each utterance is used. This ensures that the analysis accurately identifies the affixed words in relation to their specific contexts of use. Finally, the results are presented using an informal technique, featuring excerpts from the film *Argantara* accompanied by explanatory notes.

3 RESULTS

Based on the research conducted, 42 instances were identified, comprising words with affixes, words with suffixes, full reduplications, acronyms, and abbreviations; among these forms, the category appearing most frequently accounted for nine instances. Slang words featuring affixes represent a linguistic variation commonly used in everyday communication, particularly among teenagers and on social media. These words are formed by adding affixes such as prefixes, suffixes, infixes, or combinations thereof—to a root word, thereby creating a new meaning that remains easily understood by speakers.

Table 1. Summary Table of Teenage Language Forms in the Film *Argantara*

No.	Teenage language form	Count	Percentage
1	Affixed gaul colloquial words	9	2.25%
2.	Suffixed gaul colloquial words	3	7.14%
3.	Reduplicated gaul colloquial	8	19%
4.	Acronyms gaul style	3	7.14%
5.	Slang words with affixes	2	4,76%
6.	Slang words with suffixes	2	4,76%
7.	Reduplicated slang words	2	4,76%
8.	Slang term for repetition	5	11,90%

9.	Alay' words with affixes	2	4,76%
10.	Teenage language form	Count	Percentag
11.	Alay word with suffixes	3	7,14%
12.	Reduplicated 'alay' word	3	7,14%
	AMOUNT	42	100%

3.1 Slang Words Formed with Affixes

Slang terms featuring affixes represent a form of linguistic variation created through the process of affixation—specifically, the addition of affixes to the beginning and end of a root word, utilizing both prefixes and suffixes.

Data (1)

Context: The utterance above occurs when Argantara is being punished on the school grounds under Syera's supervision; however, instead of carrying out the punishment, he smokes on the field.

Syera: "Messing around and smoking at school" (09:21)

The utterance "ngerokok" is a form of slang featuring the prefix nge- it is derived from the root word rokok (cigarette) with the prefix nge- attached nge- + rokok = *ngerokok. The word ngerokok is slang referring to the activity of burning and inhaling a roll of tobacco leaves and drawing the smoke into the respiratory tract.

Data (2)

Context: Argantara expresses annoyance because Syera is scolding him.

Argantara: "Are you done ranting?" (26:14)

The utterance "ngomelnya" is a form of slang featuring the prefix ng- (or *nge-*); it is derived from the root word omel (scold/rant) with the prefix attached (*ng-* + *omelnya* = *ngomelnya*). The word "ngomelnya" is slang meaning to rant at or scold someone over a particular issue.

Data (3)

Context: Syera explains to Argantara that she wants to watch Korean dramas.

Syera: "After this, I'm going to watch Korean dramas" (42:26)

The utterance "ngedrakor" is a form of slang featuring the prefix nge-; it is derived from the root word drakor (Korean drama) with the prefix nge- attached (nge- + drakor = ngedrakor). The word ngedrakor is a slang term describing the activity of watching Korean dramas, usually done over an extended period.

Data (4)

Context: Arga invites Aldi to hang out, but the time isn't set yet.

Ghea: "I'll text you later" (58:26)

The utterance "ngechat" is a slang term referring to the activity of sending text messages or other media, such as photos and voice notes. "Ngechat" is an affixed word form using the prefix *nge-*; it is derived from the root word "chat" with the prefix *nge-* added to the beginning.

nge- + *chat* = *ngechat*.

Data (5)

Context: Jehan invites Syera to the canteen, but Syera refuses because she feels too lazy. Ghea:

"You're such a lazybones, Syera" (50:28).

The utterance "mageran" is a slang term describing someone who is reluctant to engage in activities, move locations, or do anything. "Mageran" is an affixed word form using the suffix *-an*; it is derived from the root word "mager" with the suffix *-an* added to the end. *Mager* + *-an* = *mageran*.

Data (6)

Context: Arga and Baros are arguing, but Baros speaks aggressively regarding a rival gang. Ghea:

"Calm down; you're always snapping at people" (60:15).

The utterance "ngegas" is a slang term describing someone speaking in a loud, emotional, or angry tone due to a particular issue. "Ngegas" is an affixed word form using the prefix *nge-*; it is derived from the root word "gas" with the prefix *nge-* added to the beginning. *nge-* + *gas* = *ngegas*.

Data (7)

Context: Aldi teases Arga because Arga is head-over-heels for Syera or is in the process of pursuing a relationship with her.

Aldi: "You're always so head-over-heels for Syera, Arga." (77:53)

The utterance "ngebucin" is a slang term meaning to love someone very deeply. The word "ngebucin" is a form featuring the prefix *nge-*; it derives from the root word "bucin," with the prefix added to the beginning: *nge-* + *bucin* = *ngebucin*.

Data (8)

Context: Jehan asks Syera about her relationship.

Ghea: "Aren't you going on a date with Arga, Syer?" (30:25)

The utterance "ngedate" is a slang term referring to the activity of going on a date or spending time with a loved one. The word "ngedate" also features the prefix *nge-*; it derives from the root word "date," with the prefix added to the beginning: *nge-* + *date* = *ngedate*.

Data (9)

Context: Aldi meets Syera in the school lobby and asks a question, appearing as though he wants to invite Syera to work on an assignment together.

Aldi: "Have you done yesterday's assignment, Syer?"

The utterance "ngerjain" is a slang term meaning to do or work on something. The word "ngerjain" features the prefix *nger-* (a variant of *nge-*); it derives from the root word "jain," with the prefix added to the beginning: *nger-* + *jain* = *ngerjain*.

3.2 Implications of Language Learning Outcomes

Research findings indicate that affixed slang words can be incorporated into Indonesian language instruction at the high school level, specifically for Grade 11. These findings are relevant to the drama text curriculum, which focuses on analyzing and composing drama scripts. Within this instructional module, students are guided to understand elements of drama, character traits, dialogue, and language usage that aligns with the setting, situation, and character attributes.

The research findings regarding affixed slang words can serve as a linguistic reference during the drama scriptwriting process—particularly when crafting dialogue that reflects the characters and the conflicts established in the script. By understanding affixed slang, students gain insight into the distinctions between slang and standard Indonesian, enabling them to apply each appropriately based on the context of their drama writing.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The research identified forms of slang featuring affixes—specifically, words with prefixes and words with suffixes—with prefixed words being the most dominant category in the data. This prevalence indicates that prefixation is the most productive affixation process in the formation of slang within the media studied. These affixes serve to create new meanings, emphasize actions or states, and foster a more

communicative and expressive tone in character dialogue. Furthermore, these findings have implications for Indonesian language instruction in senior high schools (SMA)—specifically for Grade 11 (Phase F) students—within the unit on "Analyzing and Drafting Drama Scripts." By studying these findings on affixed slang, students gain an understanding of the distinctions between slang and standard Indonesian, enabling them to apply each appropriately according to the context when

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