CHAPTER III

THE SLANG TERMS IN MEANING AND CULTURE

The book entitled *"Yuk Mengenal Istilah Slang Dalam Bahasa Inggris"* is the final result of the job training that has been conducted for two months. That book discusses about the definition and introduction of slang terms for Indonesian people. The slang terms discussed on this report are American slang and British Slang. The writer realizes that the slang terms written in the book *"Yuk Mengenal Istilah Slang Dalam Bahasa Inggris"* never taught in school and will not be found in the English dictionary. It is occurred because there are so many definitions of the slang terms tend to rude, vulgar, disrespectful, insulting, and dirty. But, there are also so many slang terms interesting to discuss. Hence, it makes the writer interested to discuss the phenomenon of the slang terms and published it into a book. The slang terms of English are very interesting to discuss especially for Indonesian people that are not very familiar with slang terms.

In the book entitled *"Yuk Mengenal Istilah Slang Dalam Bahasa Inggris"*, there are so many examples that using slang terms. The writer discusses about the definition of the slang terms with some conversations examples. Thus, the writer expects that the reader can easily understand the purpose and the meaning of the slang terms mentioned in the book. The writer also differentiates and separates the examples of slang terms American and British. For example, the case of *"pom bensin"* phrase in Indonesia. In American *"pom bensin"*is more familiar with "gas station". But in British slang, *"pom bensin"* is familiar with "petrol station".

The differences between American and British are caused by different cultures. Therefore, there are so many differences of the slang terms in both countries, although they use English as their mother tongue..

Some examples of the slang terms that listed in the book *"Yuk Mengenal Istilah Slang Dalam Bahasa Inggris"* are mentioned below. The explanation is conducted by creating some conversations and converting the slang terms to formal. The purpose of this method is aimed to make readers can easily understand about the meaning of the slang terms in English. The writer also will discuss about the meaning of the slang words one by one into English formal and translate into Bahasa. Then through the data, the description about the culture or history when or how that slang terms can be formed and have the meaning according to the theory will be described. First of all, the writer will discuss about the British slang and American slang will be discussed later on.

3.1 British Slang

In the class

Slang	**Formal**
Cormack: Hi Jack, ***what's up***?	Cormack: Hi Jack, ***how are you***?
Jack: Not too bad. How about you?	Jack: Not bad. How about you?
Cormack: I'm ***grant***, thanks.	Cormack: I'm ***fine***, thanks.
Jack: Here, I just want to return your comic.	Jack: Here, I just want to return your comic.
Cormack: Oh, ***cheers***.	Cormack: Oh, ***thanks***.
Jack: That comic really has a ***cracking*** story.	Jack: That comic really has a ***really good*** story.
Cormack: Yeah, indeed.	Cormack: Yes, indeed.

The dialogue above takes a place in a class, and from the example above, there are four slang terms on the Slang coloumn. On the first sentence it can be seen that the sentence of "***what's up?***" is used to greet or say hello or hi to someone. But, *what's up?* Also means *what's going on?* in English language. In Bahasa, "*what'sup?"*means *apa kabar?*. This phrase began to use in 1940 in United Kingdom.

The word "***grant***" on the third sentence means fine or good in English formal language. In Bahasa, the word *grant* means *sehat* atau *baik*. Thus, he or she can answer *"I am grant"* when people asking about his or her condition or health.

Next, the word "***cheers***" does not refer to a *toast* when people are going to drink. *Cheers* means *thank you* or *thanks* in British. In Bahasa, cheers mean *terimakasih*.

Farewell

Slang	**Formal**
Jack: Well, I wish you luck for your audition, Kyle. Kyle: Thanks. I will give a best ***shot***. Jack: I think it's time to go. Kyle: Yeah, thanks for the ride Jack! Hope to see you soon. Jack: Sure thing. ***Cheerio***.	Jack: Well, I wish you good luck for your audition, Kyle. Jack: Thank you. I will ***try*** my best. Jack: I think it's time to go. Kyle: Yeah Jack: Sure, ***see you***.

Most of Indonesian people who do not know about slang terms ***shot,*** certainly never used that in daily conversation. But in Britain, the word ***shot*** that means *try* always used in the British slang. For example, **give it a shot!** It means

in formal, **give it a try!** It is now very familiar not only in United Kingdom, but also in Scotland and Wales.

The word ***cheerio*** is slang terms exist in Britain means *Goodbye* or *See you*. Yet, the word cheerio is an irreverent manner when someone uttered it, Moreover, this word obviously informal word in British Slang.

In the living room

Slang	**Formal**
Victoria: Is that a new ***mag*** for this week, Lina? Lina: No, it's a ***mag*** a month ago. Victoria: You know that a new ***mag*** has released? Lina: No, I don't know about that. Victoria: You know what? The girl in the cover is really ***stunning***.	Victoria: Is that a new ***magazine*** for this week, Lina? Lina: No, it's a ***magazine*** a month ago. Victoria: Do you know that a new ***magazine*** has released? Lina: No, I don't know about that. Victoria: You know what? The girl in the cover really ***beautiful***.

Some slang terms in English usually abbreviate. For example, the word of "***mag***" as mentioned on the conversation above. ***Mag*** is abbreviated from Magazine and always used in Britain. In Bahasa means *majalah.*

In another example of slang terms that given bold, that was a word ***stunning.*** It means beautiful, gorgeous, or beauty in English formal language. *Stunning* not only has a meaning as beautiful, but it also can be understood as

awesome or superb in British English. The British slang surely different with American based on its culture and meaning.

3.2 American Slang

In the game center

Slang	**Formal**
Carroll: Hi William, what game are you playing? Williamson: It's Ragnarok Online II Carroll: Why your character always died? Williamson: I don't know ***mate*** Carroll: You're such a ***noobs***. You have to play like a ***pro*** player like me. Williamson: Is it true that you are a ***pro*** player? So, you have to teach me then. Carroll: My pleasure.	Carroll: Hi William, what game are you playing? Williamson: It's Ragnarok Online II Carroll: Why your character always died? Williamson: I don't know my ***friend*** Carroll: You're really ***newbie***. You have to play like a ***high skill*** player like me? Williamson: Is it true that you are a ***high skill*** player? So, you have to teach me then. Carroll: My pleasure.

In the example above, the word "***mate***" means friend or brother in formal language. But most of American people abbreviate the word *brother* into *bro*. There are still some words that have same meanings with definition "*friend*" in American slang, such as, dude, folks, and guys. In Bahasa the word "*mate*" means "*sob*" abbreviation of "*sobat*".

In another example that given in bold, there are word "***noobs***". *Noobs* means newbie in American formal language. This example usually happened when someone playing some online games. But not only in online games, the word noobs sometimes used in the daily conversation. And word *noobs* usually

intend to a newbie player. Same as the example of noobs, the word ***pro*** which is an abbreviation for professional means high skilled.

Prom night

Slang	**Formal**
Michael: Babe, are you ready for tonight prom? Lucy: Yes, of course honey. Michael: Well, I'll pick you up at 8.00 PM Lucy: That's ***cool***. I'll ***give you a bell*** if I'm ready. Michael: Ok, sweetheart. Lucy: Just watch for the ***cops***. I know that you don't have any driver's license.	Michael: Darling, are. you ready for tonight prom? Lucy: Yes, of course honey. Michael: Well, I'll pick you up at 8.00 PM Lucy: That's ***awesome***. I'll ***call you*** if I'm ready. Michael: Ok, sweetheart. Lucy: Just watch for the ***police***. I know that you don't have any driver's license.

As mentioned on the conversation above, there are some words that given in bold. The first one is word ***cool***. The word cool does not mean freeze or cold. In the American slang, *cool* means *awesome* in formal language. In Bahasa, it means *keren*. This word began to use in 1970 by American people as a slang language or slang terms.

The second word is ***cops. Cops*** mean police or policeman in formal language and in Bahasa means *Polisi*. This word began used for American people in 1704. Why the police called cops? Cops is a word that means to seize or to catch. So, it the slang terms cops have the related meaning with word cop that have means to seize. This is because the policeman job is to catch the criminals.

Borrow money

Slang	**Formal**

Liam: Sam, would you mind if I borrow your money? I want to buy a rag. Sam: Sure, how much? Liam: Oh, that's sweet. Only 50 ***bucks***. Sam: Are you ***nuts***? That's a lot of money. I only have 10 bucks. Liam: Ok, I'll borrow 5 bucks then. Sam: Alright.	Liam: Sam, would you mind if I borrow your money? I want to buy a newspaper. Sam: Sure, how much? Liam: Oh, that's nice. Only 50 dollar. Sam: Are you crazy? That's a lot of money. I only have 10 dollar. Liam: Ok, I will borrow 5 dollar then. Sam: Alright

The example above is talk about someone that wants to borrow money to his friend. As you can see the bold word "***bucks***" in formal language its means dollar or amount of money. In Bahasa, the word *bucks* means *uang* or *duit*. This slang terms is actually used in eighteenth century in America for trading with European settlers. Until today, this word is still used by people that live in America. The last word example is the word ***nuts***. *Nuts* in the formal language its means crazy or insane. In Bahasa it means *gila* or *sinting*. For the first time, Indonesian people probably think that this word have a definition of "*kacang*". But it is totally wrong. Nuts began to use in America in 1940 as the meaning of crazy or insane in American slang and the word still exist until today in America as American slang.