

Chapter I

Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

People talk in their daily life, they talk to communicate to each other in order to exchange information. They communicate with language because it is a very important means in conveying messages. All human's activities use languages as tools for communication and interaction with others. But language is not only used for communication, it is also important to build and create a good relationship with others.

There is a close relation between language and society since there is no community or group that can exist without any information being transferred. All occupations interact with language because it can show our personality, identity, character, or background.

Language can be various. It can be used by people according to their social background, their particular activities, ethnicity, common interests, etc. All occupations have special languages that relate to their particular field or activities. The more specialized occupation, the more technical language there is likely to be. One of the language varieties is jargon. David

Crystal in his " Encyclopedia of English Language"(1995: 178) defines it as word often used to describe, usually critically, the vocabulary of occupational code. He gives two meanings, which explain the different attitudes towards special language: 'the technical language of special field; the obscure use of a special language.'

All jobs of occupations or hobbies present an element of jargon. Hobbies such as sports or games have their own jargons. This kind of language variety is learned by itself to develop their expertise. Every sport, whether it is played professionally as an occupation or whether it is simply followed by amateur enthusiasts has its own jargons. Softball is one of sports, which uses so many jargons in its activity. The writer is interested in discussing jargon, which is used by Softball Athletes at Pre-PON (Pekan Olahraga Nasional) XVI Training Center in East Java. The reason why she wants to analyze this kind of variety of language is because she considers that common people, do not know about the meaning of jargons, which occur in this activity.

Softball, like any other sports, has its own jargons. People who take part in this sport must know the meaning of this technical language to be part of the group or community. People outside the community do not understand the meaning of the

jargons. Sometimes common people can recognize the words but the meaning somehow is different from the original word.

For example:

A: "Eh, kalo mukul hindari *still a head* ya."

B: "*Break* bolamu telat banget."

In the first example, the word "*still a head*" originally means "only a head". But if it is used in Softball situation, it means a hitter should focus to the ball until it touches the bat. The word "*break*" in the second example originally means "to become broken" or "crack". But in this situation "*break*" means the way a ball changes its direction to be played.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The writer assumed that she could not separate linguistic phenomena from social realities. It is signaled by the existence of linguistic phenomena that are not only caused by speakers, but also their understanding of social convention and tradition that make them create some certain words or terms in their conversation. The problems to be discussed are:

1. What kind of jargons are used by Softball Athletes in East Java?
2. How often are the jargons used by Softball Athletes in East Java?

1.3 Objective of the Study

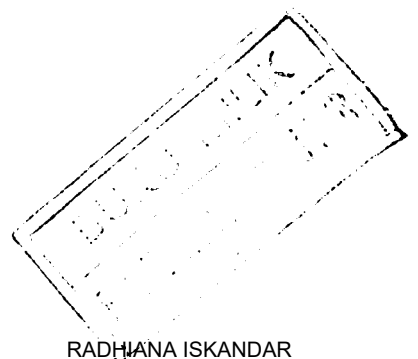
Based on the problems that are stated in the problem statement, the objective of the study is to find out what kinds of jargons are used by some Softball Athletes in East Java and how often they are used.

1.4 Significance of the study

Through this study, the writer hopes that the finding of this thesis will be useful for the students of the Faculty of Letters especially for English Department Students who are interested in sociolinguistics field especially in language variation, in this case, the jargons used in society. This study is also expected to broaden one's perspective and give contribution to the study of English Department Students.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study refers to the Sociolinguistics that is about language as a device of communication used by Softball athletes in East Java. The study is specified to focus on the jargons used by Softball Athletes in a field, in particular those used for different purposes.



1.6 Theoretical Framework

There is a close relationship between language and society. Without using language, people cannot build good interaction with others. However, the way someone uses language depends on the situation where he or she is in. It is usually characterized solely by vocabulary differences either by the use of particular words or by the use of particular sense (Trudgill, 1974:101).

According to Trudgill (1974), variety of language is simply rather special case of a particular kind of language being produced by the social situation. So, there are several social factors that lead us to the identification of variety of language, the social factors to be considered are:

(1) Whether the language is written or spoken language.

Based on the object being studied, the language being used is merely spoken language rather than written language. In this case, the jargons used by a certain community are merely studied by the writer. This certain community meant by the writer is the community of Softball Training Center in Surabaya, East Java.

(2) The physical setting and occasions of the language activity.

The physical setting is the setting where the jargons are used by East Java Softball Training Center.

Saville-Troike in his book "Ethnography of Communication" states that within each community there is a variety of language codes and ways of speaking available to its members, which is, its communicative repertoire. This includes all variety, dialect or style used in a particular socially defined population and the constraints, which govern the choice among them (1989:49). What Saville-Troike means is that it is important for the speakers to select and choose the language, which is used for communication with people.

Jargon is also explained by David Crystal in his "Encyclopedia of the English Language"(1995: 178). He defines jargon as a word often used to describe, usually critically, the vocabulary of occupational code.

1.7 Method of the Study

This thesis is using descriptive qualitative research. The implication is that the sample is going to be obtained qualitatively and collect the data as many as possible to solve the problems. It is flexible, relatively easier to administer and avoid many of the partial difficulties of data collection. (Wray, 1998: 186)

Wray states that qualitative research is an attempt to know the nature of any problems of society (1998: 185).

1.7.1 Definition of Key terms

Jargon: a technical term, which is used in a particular occupation.

Softball: a game between two teams of nine players each, under direction of a manager, played on an enclosed field in accordance with these rules, under jurisdiction of one or more umpires.

Bat: one of equipment, a smooth round stick not more than $2 \frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter at the thickest part and not more than 42 inches in length.

1.7.2 Population and Sampling

The data were taken on 3rd September-10th September 2003 at 6 A.M- 9 A.M and 3 P.M- 6 P.M. The writer takes 48 Softball Athletes in East Java, who were getting the training center for Pre-PON (Pekan Olahraga Nasional) XVI in Jakarta and 30 dialogues as sampling in Darmawangsa Softball field.

1.7.3 Technique of Data Collection

Data collection is important in order to determine the result of the study and to take the conclusion. In conducting this

research the writer collects the data through the observation and takes notes of the Softball athletes' jargons.

Observation and Taking Notes.

To obtain the valid data, the writer does an observation. Kerlinger (1981: 480) said that observing is a common term which has a lot of means of receiving data by recording it, counting it, measuring it, and noting it down. Besides, the observation could make the research more valid. Blalock and Blalock (1982:92) state that observing is " a great deal of what researcher does in the field, to pay attention, watch and listen carefully".

1.7.4 Technique of Data Analysis

The writer analyzing the data using the following several steps, they are:

1. Identifying and collecting the data: the writer identified and collected the jargons used by the Athletes.
2. Selecting the data: the writer selected jargons used for different purposes.
3. Interpreting the data: the selected data were interpreted according to the purposes.
4. Making tables: putting the data in percentage.
5. Drawing conclusion

1.8 Organization of the paper

The writer divides this thesis into four chapters. The first chapter is Introduction, which consists of the background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope and limitation, theoretical framework, method of the study, and organization of the paper. The second chapter is Literature Review. In this chapter, the writer includes some theories and related studies used to analyze the data as well as some opinions that support the analysis process. Presentation and Analysis of the data is in the third chapter. The last chapter is Conclusion in which the writer draws the conclusion of the whole study.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW