CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a background to the study followed by the purpose and the significance of the study. The research questions are stated and the limitations to the study are presented along with the definitions of terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is important for human life. Language has many functions; to communicate each other, to show the people minds, and to express the human needs. Wardhaugh (2006), stated that language is a system or arbitrary verbal symbols by which members of speech community use as a means of communication to interact and express their idea, feeling and thoughts. We will have difficulty to do anything without using the language. So, we can imagine how important language is.

According to Yule (2010), sociolinguistic is used generally for the study of the relationship between language and society. Sociolinguistic also studied how language varieties difference between groups separated by certain social variables. Sociolinguistics is a practical, scientific discipline which researches into the language that is actually used, either by native speakers or foreigners, in order to formulate theories about language change. There are numerous factors influencing the way people speak which are investigated by sociolinguistics: social class, social context, geographical origins, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, religion, and etc.
In modern era, technology plays an important role in the human life. Technology is usually used to find out the newest information, science, knowledge, economic information and etc. It gives some effects to human society, especially internet. Now, many societies use internet to help their difficulties. Internet is a global system of interconnected computer network, by the internet we can interact each other whether we are far from their countries or not. We can use Twitter, Facebook, Email, Yahoo Massagers, BBM and etc. All of the social network in internet become our lifestyle, it can't be separated each other, such as Twitter.

Twitter is a form of free micro-blogging service which allows users to send and receive short public messages called tweets. Tweets are limited to no more than 140 characters, and can include links to blogs, web pages, images, videos and all other material online (O'Reilly and Sarah 2012). Anyone can start tweeting in 10 minutes, anytime, from your computer, smart phone or tablet. By following other people and sources people able to build up an instant, personalized Twitter feed that meets she’s full range of interests, both academic and personal.

Thousands of academics and researchers at all levels of experience and across all disciplines already use Twitter daily, alongside more than 200 million other users and was named “best blogging tool” by the influential South by Southwest festival (Hamilton, 2007).
In other words, Twitter is a social networking and micro blogging service that allows you answer the question, "What are you doing?" by sending short text messages 140 characters in length, called "tweets", to friends, or "followers."

According to Trask (1999), colloquial is ordinary, relaxed, informal speech such as using contractions like: I’ve, She’d, h’ve, using connecting words and phrase like: yeah, y’know, using abbreviated utterances like: sounds good, using many words and expressions we would avoid in formal contexts, such as; “beats me”, instead of “I don’t know”, and “Gotta pee”, instead of “Would you excuse me for a minute?”. Colloquial language is not necessarily “wrong,” but it is used when a writer is trying to achieve informality.

According to Davies and Eynon (2013), Grounded in what young people actually say about using new technology in their daily lives, teenagers and technology explores the unique relationship young people have with digital media, but also draws parallels to how new technology is used throughout society. Importantly, it also discusses the so-called “digital divide” whereby some teenagers have limited access to new technologies, and the issue that this raises.

Some research findings have been reported by previous researches. Ramadhani (2007), analysed the colloquial word used by the members of Friendster in writing testimonial in Internet. She found 61 colloquial words and 9 technical terms. Those terms were divided into two. The first technical terms which support the theory include clipping, blending, acronym and hypocorism. The second is the technical terms which do not support the theory such as number
as words, number and letters as words, reducing letters and changing spelling. On the other hand, to the beginner of English learner, this kind of words may be confusing. It is also proved that colloquial words were used informal speech with relaxed situation. The users of colloquial words were feeling free and arbitrary to create new colloquial words.

The second research was conducted by Meliana (2013), who analyzed the colloquial word used by digital natives in *Facebook* status update writing. The result of her study showed that there were 55 neutral colloquial words, 7 literary colloquial words, 3 vulgar colloquial, 7 dialectal colloquial and 6 colloquial words that did not belong to the theory found in writing status of update Facebook in www.facebook.com. It means that neutral colloquial is the most dominant word used by digital natives in *Facebook* status update writing.

Based on the previous researcher’s description above, the researcher is inspired to investigate the colloquial word used by teenagers in Twitter update status writing and because it is very important and interesting to be discuss since knowing that in this era technology becomes the priority and become our lifestyle, especially internet such us Twitter. It is just focuses on colloquial and the types of colloquial itself.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

1. What are the colloquial words used by teenagers in Twitter update writing?

2. What are the types of colloquial words used by teenager in Twitter update writing?
1.3 Purposes of the Study

1. To describe the colloquial words used by teenager in Twitter update writing.

2. To identify the types of colloquial words used by teenager in Twitter update writing.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of this research is expected to give contribution to the development of sociolinguistic subject and can give new atmosphere for the researcher about colloquial words.

For the linguistic lecturer, hopefully this result can be used as an example of linguistics analysis especially on colloquial words.

On the other hand, the students will know about variety of language and also expected to be able to identify colloquial words in oral communication and in the form of writing.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is colloquial, especially the types of colloquial used by teenagers in Twitter update writing. The study is limited only on English writing update status by teenagers that were written by ten followers as the researcher’s friends that found in Twitter. Especially teenagers whose were the age 13 until 19 years old.
1.6 Definition of the Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding in term of contents of the topic in this study, it is necessary for the researcher to define the key terms used in this study:

1. Teenager is a transitional stage of physical and mental human development that occurs between childhood and adulthood. A teenager is a person between the age group of 13 until 19 years old.

2. Colloquial is ordinary, relaxed, informal speech such as using contractions, using connecting words and phrase, using abbreviated utterances, using many words and expressions. We would avoid in informal context and may use swear-words freedom. (Trask, 1999)

3. Twitter is an online platform which allows users to construct a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system, articulate a list of other users with whom they share a connection, and view and traverse their list of connection and those made by others within the system. (Weller, 2014)

4. Tweeting is a post or composes update typed in “What’s happening?” status to the people who are following, in 140 characters or less. (Huang, 2011)