CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the research background, research problems, research objectives, scope and limitation, research significance, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Language has an important role in communication among people. They use language to deliver information to each other, as well as express their moods and emotions. Body language is used in communication in addition to verbal language. There are roughly thousands spoken languages in the world and each language is a part of speakers’ identity. Either good or bad, relations between human beings are preserved by the use of language. Language is unreasonably hard or complex because there is continuously vulnerable transformation in each language, as stated by Barry (2008).

Slang is well-known as the language that everybody or in particular group distinguishes but could not define the slang words easily. Therefore, to avoid mistake in language development, dealing with slang words is important. Meanwhile, Katamba (2005) states, slang is the study of informal language that is used to define a particular language. Commonly, the varieties of new language which is simple and ungrammatical are often used by teenagers nowadays in order to have easier communication.
Slang is an informal language which could be found easily in the advertisement, video games or social media, for instance, that also affects people’s daily language use. The form of slang words is the combination of old words and new words then produce new meanings. Also, slang words are old words that turn into new meaning or new meanings from new words (Fromkin, 2003).

There are many previous studies that discuss in broad terms the kinds and the meanings of slang words used in movies, song lyrics, and novels. Three previous studies of slang words will be referenced in this analysis. The first one is *An Analysis of Cop Hobbs’s Slang Words as The Captain of Racing Car Club in Justin Lin Film “Fast and Furious 6”* by Agustin (2015). The researcher’s analysis focused on the kinds and meaning of slang words used by Cop Hobbs as the captain in racing car club. There are three kinds of slang words found by the researcher; they are fresh and creative slang, flippant slang, and imitative slang.

Second is *An Analysis of Slang Used by Jay-Z’s Song Lyrics in The “Blue Print 3” Album 2009* by Ariandini (2015). The researcher analysed the kinds of slang expression and the meaning of slang expressions. There were 92 slang expressions that were found by the researcher which included 69 general slang expressions and 23 specific slang expressions.

Third, *An Analysis on Derivation Process of Slang Words in Instagram Account of Slangcards* by Firdausi (2019). The researcher identified kinds of derivation process of slang words and investigated the
reason behind the choice of the most frequent type of derivation process of slang words found in Slangcards’s Instagram account. The researcher found 14 slangs which were constructed by derivation process.

From the previous studies above, the writer is interested in analysing the slang words used in the song lyrics in Ariana Grande’s Dangerous Woman album 2016. The writer focuses on the kinds and meanings of slang words specifically. Dangerous Woman album as the object is used by the writer because the song lyrics are inspiring the women to be brave, to be herself, and to be honest.

In this thesis, the writer chooses Ariana Grande because she is an American artist in which American English is the universal English. Besides, she has started her first career in 2008 in the entertainment industry and from that she influences many people, the native or non-native English speakers, in many ways especially the way to deliver her feelings, ideas or thoughts via the language use, explicitly American slang words.

1.2 Research Problems

The research problems can be formulated as follows:

1. What are the types of slang words used in Dangerous Woman album by Ariana Grande?

2. What are the meanings of slang words used in Dangerous Woman album by Ariana Grande?
1.3 Research Objectives

The research objectives are stated as follows:

1. The analysis is being conducted to identify the types of slang words used in Dangerous Woman album by Ariana Grande.

2. The analysis is being conducted to interpret the meanings of slang words used in Dangerous Woman by Ariana Grande.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this analysis focuses on the slang words type in Ariana Grande’s Dangerous Woman album. This study is limited to slang words used in all of the song lyrics in Ariana Grande’s Dangerous Woman album: Dangerous Woman, Side to Side, Into You, and Let Me Love You.

1.5 Research Significance

Theoretically, the outcome of this study is expected to be advantageous for readers to understand and enrich the information about new terms, types, and meanings of slang words through the song lyrics of Dangerous Woman’s album by Ariana Grande.

Practically, this study is intended to be reference in analyzing slang words for the students or lecturers of English Language Education Department UMM.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misinterpretation of key terms that are related to this study, they are defined as follows:
1. Slang is freely expressed, and is not restricted by certain grammatical rules. (Perwita, 2010).

2. Song is a distinctive or characteristic sound or series of sounds (Merriam-Webster online dictionary, accessed on 13 January at 9.03 pm, 2020).

3. “Lyrics are written as a form of interaction between the writer and the listeners. Most of the times, they carry a message (whatever that might be) with the purpose of motivating the listeners, at least, to think about it.” (Dallin, 1994)

4. Dangerous Woman is Ariana Grande’s third studio album. The album’s name is representing herself as a stronger person, said she. The album was released in 2016 which has four songs, they are: Dangerous Woman, Side to Side, Into You and Let Me Love You (Billboard, accessed on 11 January at 5.30 pm, 2020).

5. Ariana Grande is a singer and an actress from America. She was born in 1993. A strong social media presence on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook has increased her popularity. (Biography, accessed on 11 January at 5.37 pm, 2020)