

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of Study

Pyles and Algeo (1982:3) define language as a system of conventional vocal sign by means of which human being communicate. Either it is spoken or written, it is used by people to communicate each other. Language is also an identity and symbol of a nation. There are many different languages in the world. As stated in the Holy Qur'an (Ar-Rum : 22).

This verse says that one of many His signs is languages. No matter how many languages are used in a state, we should regard them as knowledge that we should learn.

Language always innovates during the time. As Fromkin et. al. (1996:333) stated in her book:

Changes in a language are actually changes in the grammars of the speakers of the language, and are perpetuated when new generations of children learn the language by acquiring the new grammar. An examination of the change that have occurred in English during the past 1500 years shows that the sound system and morphological system have changed, the syntactic rules have changed, and the semantic system has changed.

As Fromkin statement, it showed that language has changed over a long period. Language does not change in a short time. Additionally Crystal (2003:330) said “All aspects of language structure and use are subject to changes, but the most noticeable and frequent changes affect pronunciation and vocabulary, and it is these which have attracted most study”. Thus, vocabulary is interesting to be studied.

English vocabulary has a remarkable change, flexibility and adaptability thanks to the periods of contact with foreign languages and its readiness to coin new words out of old elements (McCarthy and O’Dell, 2007:2).

New words come into English from every aspect of life where they represent and describe the changes and developments that take place from day to day. We have acknowledged that social media is one of the example of technology product that has contributed on language change today. Social media has been attracted millions of users around the world. Some of the most popular social media are wellknown around the world are Facebook, Twitter, Linked in, Instagram, Path. These social media have attracted millions users, and they have contributed to new words in English.

Sometimes we find a new word, and we do not know the meaning, it make us to open dictionary. But, there are some step we do before we look up in dictionary. According to McCarthy and O’Dell (2007:3) when we listen or read to English it is sometimes possible to guess the meaning of a word that we do not before we look up or ask its meaning. We need to decide first what part of speech

the word is and then look for clues in its context or form. It is all covers on word-formation processes.

Word-formation processes is ways of creating new words in English. Based on Yules (2006), the processes consist of, coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, clipping, backformation, conversion, acronyms, and derivation (prefixes, suffixes, infixes). The words which commonly used on social media can be analyzed by those processes in order to know how they are created.

Today, social media is really close to people. Now, checking of all social media tools in their smartphone becomes daily activity that cannot be separated from their life. In social media tools, people can oversee what their friends, family, or stranger statement. Most of them often state in informal writing style and use slang words. It will be a good thing if we do a field research which takes place around us that, the place that sometimes we do not aware.

The writer realizes that, there are some new words become commonly used appear on those social media. It happened when the users tweeted on Twitter, and gave the description or comment of photo on Instagram. Some the examples of the words are, *get well soon (GWS)*, *wish you all the best (WUATB)*, *avatar (ava)*, *follow back (follback)*, etc. Those common words are interesting to be analyzed how they are created. The study about creating new word is word-formation processes.

Among of kinds of social media, the writer choose Instagram and Twitter. Instagram and Twitter are chosen for this research because Instagram and Twitter are simpler than others because they have limited characters that makes users

write in limitation writing and they are some of the social media that have same terms such following and followers, while others not. Following someone's in Instagram and Twitter, automatically we can access their timeline while in this research it is the place where the writer observes.

Based on the phenomenon above, the writer is interested in doing a research entitled: "THE ANALYSIS OF WORD-FORMATION PROCESSES OF COMMON WORDS USED IN SOCIAL MEDIA"

### **B. Statement of Problems**

Based on the background above, this research concerns with the following question :

1. What kinds of word-formation processes are used in social media ?
2. What kind of word-formation processes is most used in social media?

### **C. Objective of Study**

Based on the research questions stated above, the objectives of study are :

1. To determine the kinds of word-formation processes used in social media.
2. To find the kind of word-formation processes most used in social media.

### **D. Limitation of Problem**

The research takes place in social media. The subject of this research are social media (Instagram and Twitter). The writer takes each 15 users of Instagram and Twitter. However, this research focused on the word-formation processes of common words which users state on May until October on social media.

### **E. Significance of Study**

From the result of the study, the writer expects it can be useful for :

1. Academic benefit

This study is expected to make a valuable contribution especially for those who are getting involved in learning word-formation processes.

2. Practical benefit

- a. For the writer, enriching the writer's knowledge and experience in this specific research.
- b. For the readers, the result of the research will inform that this research can enrich knowledge about word-formation processes.
- c. For English Department students, opening opportunity to observe further research in the same analysis especially in word-formation.

#### **F. Definition of Key Terms**

To avoid any misinterpretations toward the title, the writer needs to explain some terms in the following explanations:

1. Analysis is study of something by examining its part. It means analysis is study to know something and this session the writer uses analysis as the ways to know word-formation processes of common words in social media.
2. Word-formation process is a way of forming new words or terms from the use of old words. The processes consist of coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, clipping, back-formation, conversion, acronyms, derivation, and multiple processes .
3. Common words in this research refers to the daily words that common used on Social Media.

4. Social media refers to interaction among people in which they create, share, and/or exchange information and ideas in virtual communities and networks. Social-media technologies take on many different forms including magazines, Internet forums, weblogs, social blogs, microblogging, wikis, social networks, podcasts, photographs or pictures, video, rating and social bookmarking. In this research the writer use Instagram and Twitter.
  - a. Instagram is an online photo-sharing, video-sharing and social networking service that enables its users to take pictures and videos, apply digital filters to them, and share them on a variety of social networking services.
  - b. Twitter is an online social networking and microblogging service that enables users to send and read "tweets", which are text messages limited to 140 characters.