AN ANALYSIS OF JARGON USED IN “WORLD OF TANKS” ONLINE GAMES

ABSTRACT


Keywords: Jargon, Word-Formation, World of Tanks, Online Forum

The objectives of this research are 1. to find out and identify jargons used by World of Tanks gamers, 2. analyze the word-formation processes, interpret their definitions that are involved in creating those jargons, 3. find the purpose of using jargon in online forum. The subject of this research is World of Tanks forum in North America server and the data were taken from discussion forum, then. The data were transcribed and sorted to be material for questionnaire. 15 gamers participated in this research. All of them are World of Tanks players. Participant observation was used as technique for data collection. The observation were done from 21 October 2016 to 30 October 2016. The postings were transcribed, sorted, and assembled to make them organized well. Open-ended questionnaire was used in order to know the meaning and purpose of using jargon. The result presented in this research show that the online gamers of World of Tanks are often using jargon in communication. In world of tanks’s forum found 53 jargons that used word-formation processes by Yule’s theory, there are 9 acronyms, 32 abbreviations, 10 clippings, and 2 multiple-processes. The purposes of using jargon in World of Tanks online forum are mostly to shorten words in order to save their keystroke when do chat and just to make fun of someone or something.
I. Introduction

English is Massive Multiplayer Online (MMO) is one of the games that are currently in played. In this game, the players are not only playing together, but also do communication without having to meet. Because of the excessive of players communicating in the game, many players are take an online forum as a central of communication due to the more accessible and can be read again and again. In the online forum, the players are allowed to share experiences, tricks, and ask the other players.

In the online forum, the players create a new word that only them can understand or known as jargon. They create the jargon, and prevent outsider to knowing the content of their talks and make them feel close to each other. According to Holmes (1992: 21), jargon is used by some people in the profession or community. It is created only for a certain situation. People do not use jargon all the time. Not all people know about the meaning of jargon, but it is not a secret language. Several terminologies in medical professionals, law, army, and police are considered jargon (Trudgill, 1992: 41). Even, a game has a specific theme, such as Battlefield. This is an example of MMO games with military-themed, when the players are communicate in online forums. They are not just use the jargon of its own, but also use jargon from the military. It would be difficult for players who are not understand military terms which are used in the game forum. As an example, CIWS means Close in Weapon System. For players who do not speak English were find it hard to understand despite already knowing the meaning of the jargon which in Bahasa means roket harpun.

Since there are many MMO games in the world, the researcher then, have an interest toward the jargon used in online forums World of Tanks. The game is
chosen because it is a MMO game which is themed as military game, and it is now widely played in the world including Indonesia.

Realizing the phenomenon, the researcher intended to have further investigation in language used in online game, especially World of Tanks. The researcher feel it is worthwhile to investigate and analyze the jargon used in World of Tanks forum, in terms of online forum the use and the meaning that jargon entails, the form of word–formation processes involved, and purpose of using jargon in World of Tanks forum.

II. Language Variety

Language variety can occur in our life because we come from different background. It can be from different culture, different profession, different habit, and etc. According to Nababan (1993), the varieties are the application of language; they exist in all languages. We have already ignored the fact that every language will have more that one variety, especially in the way it is spoken. This variation in speech is an important and well-organized aspects of our daily life as language users in different regional and social communities.

Ismiyati (2004:7) says another opinion about language variety. She says that a multilingual society consists of many different groups with different cultures and varieties of language. The writer concludes that every group of people use their own variety that is different from another variety. We can also say that language variety is also linked to a social environment such as social class, education, ages, and a number of other social.
According to Wulandari (2006:22) variety of languages based on its purpose are considered as one aspect of the area which decides the appropriate selection of language. Some varieties of language in connection with groups, status, and social class of the speakers are slang, colloquial, cant, registers, and jargon.

Slang is the result of linguistic environment, especially young and active person who wants fresh, lively terms which they can rename ideas, actions, and objects that they feel strongly about. The effect of the slang is the result of combination of linguistics irreverence and a reaction against staid, stuffy, pompous, pretentious, or colorless diction. Example: spaced out, right on, and rip off (Willis, 1964:195).

Colloquial is from the Latin language which means conversation. Colloquial language just uses in conversation, not in written language. The example of colloquial are don’t, I’d, We’ll, and ect. (www.pearsoned.com/linguistics).

Partridge (1981:65) says that cant is the technical term for peculiar vocabulary to the underworld. Cant is social variety which is used by certain community in specific occupation, class, age group of people. They use this language to certain purpose. That is to express pity feeling. They use cant words to hearer feel pity to them. Beggars usually use this language.

Registers are specific sets of vocabulary items associated with different occupational group or the language of groups of people with common or interest job. For example: the language used by airplane, pilot, commentators, managers, etc. (Holmes, 2001:246)
Jargon is terms and expressions which are often used by a certain community, but people out of their community cannot understand terms and expression that they often use (Holmes 1992:21).

Several researches have been done in comparing international and Bahasa jargon. Perdana (2015) has done a research about word formation jargon entitled “Naval Jargon on “Battleship” Movie” that used qualitative research to find jargon in a fiction military movie and comparing US and Bahasa jargon and a research titled “The Analysis of Jargon Formation in Online Trading: A Case Study of Jargon Formation in Forum Jual Beli” by Nurmala (2013) was used as a previous research to suppose research in jargon an online forum.

III. Research Design and Methods

This research conducted a descriptive qualitative method to search jargons meaning. According to Flick (2009), qualitative research is mainly concerned with the production and analysis of texts, such as transcripts of interviews or field notes and other analytic materials. The researcher used the qualitative research that uses non numeral data that were obtained from the conversation, utterance, and also read the article that connected with this research.

In this research, The data were taken from threads on http://forum.worldoftanks.com which the research searched the threads contained jargons and still in date limit from 21 October to 30 October 2016 . The researcher read the threads without joining the conversation to make the data to be natural and no intervention. In order to found the meaning and the using of jargon, the researcher invited World of Tanks Indonesia group members to answered the questionnaire.
The object of this research was *World of Tanks* forum from North American Server. The researcher chose North American server as the object for his research because the majority of forum members were native speakers and quite understand in English that were useful for the researcher to get more information for his research.

In order to get enough data, the researcher did observation and used questionnaire. Observation is the technique of gathering data where the researcher learns about behavior or the meaning attach to those behaviors (Sugiyono, 2012;203).

There are four kinds of observation. They are participant observation, overt observation and covert observation, and unstructed observation as stated by Faisal (1990) in Sugiyono (2012;310). In this research, the researcher used participant observation as his technique for collecting data, and did this participant observation passively. It is mean that the researcher did not interact with the gamers and participate in the threads on the forum to keep the nature of the data. The data collection start from 21 October to 30 October 2016, by collecting thread which contain jargon.

Also, the researcher used an open-ended questionnaire in order to know the meaning of new words created by the gamers. It is important to help the researcher in analyzing the data. The questionnaire is a technique of data collection by giving some questions to the participant to answer (Sugiyono, 2012;199). A questionnaire uses to get useful information to support theories and concepts in the literature. The questionnaire consisted of a list of new words found by the researcher. The questionnaire were given and answered by World of Tanks Indonesia’s members.
According to Bogdan (1975), in Sugiyono, 2012, p.334), in qualitative research, the data analysis is the process of systematically searching and arranging the interview transcriptions, field notes, and other materials that you accumulate to increase your own understanding of them and to enable you to present what you have discovered to others. The steps for analyzing the data were:

1. The researcher analyzed all of the collected words and the questionnaire that was given to the participants before the researcher identified the type of word formation and word meanings.

2. The researcher classified the data based on word formation which the classification based on Yule’s theory (2010).

3. After classifying the word formation, the researcher analyzed the purpose of use of jargon.

4. Finally, the researcher drew conclusion from the result that the researcher got from his research.

IV. Findings and Discussions

a. Jargon in World of Tanks Forum

The findings of the first research question: “What the jargon used in World of Tanks forum?”. To answer this question, the researcher used passive participant observation which the researcher joined and collected the data in the forum without any contact with other members to make sure that the forum works naturally. The data were in form of jargon which could be identified based on the jargon’s definition proposed by Holmes (1992, p.21). It is terms and expressions which are often used by a certain community, but people out of their community not all understand the terms and expressions that they often use. Jargon is not secret, but it
is just kind of code to communicate easily. The researcher found 53 jargons which were used on WoT forum from 21 to 30 October 2016.

b. Word – Formation Processes of Jargon in World of Tanks Forum

After the researcher collected and analyzed the data, researcher found jargon created by applying several word-formation processes. Word-formation processes involved in forming jargons found in this research were acronym, abbreviation, clipping, and multiple processes.

c. The Purpose of Using Jargon in World of Tanks Forum

To finding the data for the Purpose of Using Jargon from an online questionnaire contained 5 questions, that data collected from 15 participants. The data were analyzed by listing the answer of the participants based on the questions, classified the answers base on it similarities and differences, and the findings were the purposes of using jargon in World of Tanks online forum are mostly to shorten words in order to save their keystroke when do chat and just to make fun of someone or something.

V. Conclusions and Suggestions

a. Conclusions

In conclusion, This research aimed to find jargons used in WoT gamers community, its formation processes and the meaning of each jargons. As found and explained in the previous chapter, there were 53 jargons using word – formation processes create WoTs’ jargon.

There were three processes that occur from ten processes proposed by Yule (2006). They were acronym, clipping, and multiple processes. As this research
showed there were vast numbers of ways in which players have adapted and changed the daily language. This was mainly done by acronym.

This research found out that the players use some methods of word-formation known by linguists to create jargons. The function of these jargons was, for the most part, to shorten words in order to save keystrokes or just word play to make fun of something.

b. Suggestion

This research might be used as an introduction to how language is used in gaming forum from linguistic point of view. This research was hopefully could be applied in morphology study to explain how language and its meaning are created in one’s discourse community. However, there were many linguistic aspects that have not been covered in this research and would need further research. For example, the next researcher could analyze the syntaxes or discourse within gaming language.
REFERENCES


Nurmala, L. (2013). The Analysis Of Jargon Formation In Online Trading: A Case Study Of Jargon Formation In Forum Jual Beli. Retrieved from repository.upi.edu


Dear respondents,

Please answer the questionnaire regarding my research entitled “Students’ Strategies In Overcoming Language Anxiety In Speaking English”:

A. Demographic Profile of the Respondents

*Direction*: Please write down your data for the following items in the below

1. Name :
2. Students’ Number :
3. Gender (please circle your gender) : Male  Female
4. Class (please write your class) :

B. The following items describe statement about students’ personal feeling in English Foreign Language Classroom.

*Direction*: Please indicate your agreement or disagreement with the following statements by ticking (√) your response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/No</th>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Response SA</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>SD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Students feel not quite sure of themselves when she/he speak in English.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Students are afraid of making mistakes in English classes.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Students will tremble when she/he know that she/he is going to be called on in English classes.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Students feel terrible if she/he doesn’t understand what the lecturer is saying in English.</td>
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<td>Students will start to panic when she/he has to speak without preparation in English classes.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Students feel embarrassed if she/he has to volunteer answers in the English classes.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Students will be nervous while speaking English with native speaker.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Students will get upset when she/he doesn’t understand what the lecturer is correcting.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Students feel unconfident when she/he speak English in classes.</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Students are afraid that their English lecturer is ready to correct every mistake she/he make.</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Students can feel their heart pounding when she/he is going to be called on in English classes.</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Students feel that their friends speak English better than she/he does.</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Students feel very self conscious about speaking English in front of the other students.</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Students will get upset and confused when she/he is speaking in English classes.</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>Students will get nervous when she/he doesn’t understand every word from English lecturer says.</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Students feel overwhelmed by the numbers of rules that she/he has to learn to speak English.</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>Students will be afraid if their friends laugh when she/he speak English.</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Students will get nervous when the English lecturer asks questions which she/he hasn’t prepared in advance.</td>
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* Thank You *
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<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>QUESTIONS</th>
<th>PROMPTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Please tell me what disturbs you the most about learning and speaking English in the classroom? Why?</td>
<td>Learning in the classroom, when required to speak, giving presentation in the class, etc.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 2.  | Do you think learning and speaking English as foreign language is difficult?  
   • What kind of difficulties or problems do you feel when speaking English?  
   • Why do you think it difficult? | Different expectation (belief about language learning by the learners) and reality.  
   Example: difficulties in learning and remembering vocabulary, grammar (which aspects of grammar, like verbs, tense, etc), pronouncing words, to attain good fluency, making sentence, etc. |
| 3.  | What kinds of situations cause stress or anxiety on you while speaking English? | Classroom procedure: speaking in front of people, lecturers, someone better, in class, exposed to immediate questions / do speaking, know my turn to speak is coming, etc.  
   Language testing: speaking in oral tests, have to speak in test but have a problem with test material, etc. |
| 4.  | What do you think are the reasons of this nervousness or anxiety? | Self-esteem and competitiveness: lack of confidence, preparation, language difficulties, not been taught properly, less practice, not good at English, feels difficult to learn, others are better, etc.  
   Procedural: classroom atmosphere, test situation-like, others (lecturer, peers) reaction when I speak, etc. |
| 5.  | Are you afraid of making mistakes while speaking English? How do you think people will react if you make mistakes? | Giving negative evaluation, being laugh at, being ignored, getting insult, etc. |
| 6.  | How do you think your lecturer plays a role in creating the feeling of anxiety in the classroom? | If he/she is so serious, not friendly, attitude towards mistakes and corrections, making intimidation, etc.  
   Role plays, making pair / group work, etc. |

**B. STRATEGIES IN OVERCOMING SPEAKING ANXIETY**

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<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>QUESTIONS</th>
<th>PROMPTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>What do you do to yourself to be less anxious in speaking before facing the speaking activity?</td>
<td>Preparation, example: practicing, asking questions, study hard, prepare the material, make a habit of studying English, note taking, evaluate myself, listen and read carefully before speaking, try to guess the meaning of a difficult passage, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Do you make any gestures in order to make you more relax and reduce your anxiety in speaking? What is it?</td>
<td>Relaxation, example: take a deep breath, try to relax / calm down, close my eyes, pretend to be calm, make gesture with my body, etc.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Do you have any thought while you are anxious to be going or in doing speaking in the class? What is it?</td>
<td>Positive thinking, example: try to be confident, tell myself about something positive, say prayer, try to take it easy, cheer myself up, think of something good, think of a joke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3. | Do you ever think others might have the same anxiety problems in speaking like you?  
- What is your thought?  
- Have you ever asked for others help to reduce your anxiety? Who are they and how do you asked them? | Peer seeking, example: tell myself that others also had the same problems / anxious like me, look for others who are having difficulty to understand and control their anxiety in the class, ask students around me if they understand the class, talk with friends around me |
| 4. | Have you ever managed to avoid a class or certain classroom activity or task because you are anxious? Why? | Resignation, example: managed to not get exposed in the class, quickly finish the conversation, give up, accept the situation, just try to put up with the situation, stop paying attention. |
| 5. | Do you have any other ways to reduce your anxiety in speaking? | |
| 6. | | |