

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Findings

1. The Use of AAVE by ‘Ramengvrl’

Ramengvrl used a variety of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) elements in her videos on TikTok, X, Instagram, and YouTube. It was clear from a study of 13 contents that she used vocabulary, construction, and grammatical features of AAVE. This indicated that she was accustomed to and at ease with AAVE in her communication style. Ramengvrl was able to communicate with a larger audience and express herself honestly by using these linguistic components. Utilizing AAVE elements gave her content a distinctive and personal touch that enhanced her attractiveness and increases interaction with her fan base. This fitted the following description below.

a. The use of vocabulary of AAVE

“I just found a dope deal” (04, Y)

“Got these jocks for lickin' kids” (04, Y)

In data (04, Y), for example, "jocks" was used for "men" and "dope deal" was used for "good opportunity". AAVE also featured the usage of slang terminology and distinctive language. One important feature of AAVE that distinguished it apart from other English dialects was this lexical choices.

“Like a whoop, chill, in my lane” (12, I)

The usage of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) features—specifically, words like "chill", which indicated a calm condition, and "whoop", which implied a loud yell or shout—was covered in data (12, I). "Like a whoop, chill, in my lane" was an example sentence that showed how to use these AAVE terms. The primary goal was to demonstrate the different linguistic features of this language by highlighting the application of AAVE traits in communication.

b. The use of Contractions of AAVE

1) I'mma

“I'mma smoke you up” (13, I)

One characteristic of African American Vernacular English that distinguished out was the contraction of AAVE in the phrase "I'mma smoke you up" as in data (13, I). The substitution of "I'mma" for "I am going to" exemplified a phonological reduction typical of AAVE. This contraction demonstrated the linguistic creativity and effectiveness of AAVE speakers in communicating their plans for the future. All things considered, the contraction in this sentence demonstrated the distinct linguistic traits and cultural details seen in AAVE.

2) Gonna

“I'm gonna be laughing” (05, T)

“I'm gonna be flying to Malaysia” (06, T)

“I'm gonna smoke you up” (13, I)

Examples of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) contractions in casual conversation were presented in the content that was made public. "I'm gonna" was contracted in sentences like "I'm going to be laughing" in data (05, T) and "I'm going to be flying to Malaysia" in data (06, T), illustrating a common linguistic trait in AAVE where "going to" was abbreviated to "gonna" for casual communication. The speaker in data (13, I) stated, "I'm gonna smoke you up" utilizing the contraction "gonna" rather than "going to." These examples demonstrated the distinctive grammatical features of AAVE and the informal and efficient ways in which speakers of this dialect might use contractions.

3) Wanna

“You just wanna have some fun” (01, Y)

“You wanna refund” (01, Y)

“Why do you wanna make *centil* great again?” (02, Y)

“It's fine if y'all wanna be sad” (02, Y)

“I wanna do” (11, I)

The text that was provided included a variety of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) contractions in distinct sentences. Most of the contractions were found in the word "wanna" which was a slang term for "want to." The contraction "wanna" was employed in the first sentence, "You just wanna have some fun" (01,

Y), to indicate the purpose or desire to have fun. Likewise, the contraction "you wanna refund" (01, Y) was employed in the second sentence to express the wish for a refund. Finally, we have the sentence "Why do you wanna make centil great again?" to wrap up our examples. (02, Y) used the contraction "wanna" to express the purpose or wish to restore centil's greatness.

Similarly, the contraction "it's fine if y'all wanna be sad" (02, Y) was employed to convey the willingness or need to be sad. Last but not least, the contraction "wanna" was employed in the sentence "I wanna do" (11, I) to express the speaker's wish or intention to take action, even though the precise activity was not stated in the provided text. In all, the language that was presented demonstrated how "wanna" was contracted in AAVE, which was frequently employed to convey intentions, willingness, or wishes in a more casual and colloquial way.

4) Y'all

"Y'all can have opinions" (09, X)

"Y'all are toxic" (10, X)

"Y'all still stick with me" (11, I)

African American Vernacular English (AAVE) had been simplified in the text provided and shown in the data (09, X), (10, X), and (11, I). "You all" was frequently contracted to "y'all" in AAVE, a pluralization of the pronoun "you" plus "all" to create a

singular pronoun for a group of individuals. This abbreviation was unique to AAVE and was common in African American communities' informal communication. The speaker's comfort and familiarity with AAVE language elements, as well as the inclusion and unity within their social circle, are highlighted by the use of "y'all" in these expressions. In general the text showed how the employment of particular linguistic markers, such as contractions in AAVE, expressed cultural identity and community belonging.

5) Kinda

“Ur always kinda alright to me” (10, X)

The informal and colloquial character of AAVE was further shown by the use of "kinda" rather than "kind of" in data (10, X). All things considered, the contraction of AAVE in this work draws attention to the specific linguistic features.

2. Types of Grammatical Features of AAVE Used by ‘Ramengvrl’

Using African American Vernacular English (AAVE) grammar rather than standard English grammar setted Ramengvrl apart from other Indonesian content creators in general. She stood out because of to this unusual word choice, which also gave her communication style a unique personality. The types of grammatical features that Ramengvrl used could be describe as follow.

a. Verb Phrase

1) Copula/Auxiliary Absence

The result showed the Copula/Auxiliary Absence in African American Vernacular English (AAVE) by Ramengvrl. This linguistic feature was characterized by the absence of copula verbs, such as "is," "am," "are" and auxiliary verbs, such as "have," "has," "had" in certain contexts, as follow:

“I just found a dope deal” (04, Y)

“Rumors goin’” (04, Y)

“I just been goins’ up” (04, Y)

“I just whitened” (05, T)

“We are cooking something real sweet (or umami, depends how u feeling)” (11, I)

“Movies so smooth like a criminal” (12, I)

“They thought they between me” (13, I)

In data (04, Y) "I just found a dope deal", demonstrated the absence of the auxiliary verb "have". Next, in data (04, Y), "Rumors goin'" showcased the absence of the copula verb "are". In AAVE, the copula verb could be dropped in present progressive constructions. The third example of data (04, Y), "I just been goin' up", illustrated the absence of the auxiliary verb "have". In AAVE, the auxiliary verb "have" was often omitted in present perfect constructions. In data (05, T), "I just whitened", highlighted the absence of the auxiliary verb "have" In data (11, I), "We are cooking something real sweet (or umami, depends how u feeling)", showcased the absence of the copula verb "are". In AAVE, the

copula verb could be dropped in present progressive constructions. In data (12, I) "Movies so smooth like a criminal" and (13, I), "They thought they between me" exhibited the absence of the copula verb "are". The copula verb in AAVE can be omitted in some situations, like this one when it's used to indicate existence or location.

2) Invariant *be*

These examples illustrated the use of "be" to indicate habitual or continuous actions in AAVE. The use of "be" in these contexts highlighted the unique linguistic features of AAVE, emphasizing ongoing or repeated actions. This linguistic trait allowed for more accurate representation of activities and states by giving the language deeper depth and complexity.

"I be shaking" (02, Y)
 "Sometimes my cheap ass be shaking" (02, Y)
 "I'm gonna be flying to Malaysia" (06, T)
 "Haters be talking illogical" (12, I)

In these utterance, it could be seen such as non-standard verb forms in data (02, Y) "I be shaking", (06, T) "I'm gonna be flying to Malaysia", (12, I) "Haters be talking illogical" and habitual "be" to indicate ongoing or repeated actions in data (02, Y) "I be shaking my ass".

b. Negation

1) *Ain't*

One of the grammatical features of AAVE is the use of the negation "ain't" instead of "isn't" or "aren't." This was seen in phrases as follows:

“She ain't that cute” (01, Y)

“Ain't even in my peak” (13, I)

One of the grammatical features of AAVE was the use of the negation "ain't" instead of "isn't" or "aren't". This was seen in phrases like in data (13, I) “Ain't even in my peak” and (01, Y) “She ain't that cute”. AAVE speakers commonly employed "ain't" as a negative contraction, which differed from the standard English usage.

2) Multiple negation

AAVE also often used double negatives for emphasis. Multiple negation was a grammatical feature in AAVE where double negatives were used for emphasis or to convey a specific meaning.

“Ain't about no to cause you feel so rude” (01, Y)

“I don't need no introduction” (13, I)

“Nobody no I'm hopping” (13, I)

As seen in data (01, Y) “Ain't about no to cause you feel so rude.” In the first example as in data (01, Y), the phrase “Ain't about no” was used to emphasize the speaker's disregard for something, with the double negative reinforcing the negation. Similarly, in the

second example as in data (13, I), the phrase "I don't need no" was used to emphasize that the speaker did not require an introduction. The third example as in data (13, I), "Nobody no I'm hopping", used double negation to convey the meaning that nobody knew that the speaker was hopping. These illustrations showed how AAVE's use of multiple negation was a defining characteristic that added to its particular grammatical structure.

c. Nominal

1) *Y'all* and possessive *they*

In these utterances, Ramengvrl used "Y'all" as a grammatical feature of African American Vernacular English (AAVE). This term was a contraction of "you all" and was commonly used in informal speech within the AAVE community. The examples given demonstrated how "Y'all" was used in various contexts, such as expressing desires as follow:

- “Y'all wanna be sad” (02, Y)
- “I love that y'all still stick with me” (11, I)
- “It's fine if y'all wanna be sad” (02, Y)
- “Y'all can have opinions” (09, X)
- “Y'all are toxic” (10, X)

In data (02, Y) "Y'all wanna be sad", showing appreciation in data (11, I) "I love that y'all still stick with me", giving permission in data (02, Y) "It's fine if y'all wanna be sad", acknowledging the existence of opinions in data (09, X) "Y'all can have opinions", and making a negative observation in data (10, X) "Y'all are toxic". In

summary, "Y'all" served as a plural form of "you" in AAVE and was used to address or refer to a group of people. It was a characteristic of the dialect that was important for communication in the AAVE community.

2) Absence of relative pronoun

One notable characteristic of AAVE was the omission of relative pronouns, such as "who", "which", or "that" in certain contexts.

“Tired of being disappointed by the girls you met” (01, Y)

“Rumors goin' around saying I'm that label hoppin' chick” (04, Y)

In data (01, Y), Ramengvrl said, ‘The girls you met’ instead of ‘The girls who you met’. Similarly, in data (04, Y), she said ‘Rumors goin' around saying I'm that label hoppin' chick’ instead of ‘Rumors goin' around saying that I'm that label hoppin' chick’.

d. Question Formation

1) Non-inverted *wh* question

In African American Vernacular English (AAVE), non-inverted *wh*-questions were used to ask questions without changing the word order. In these questions, the *wh*-word, such as who, what, where, when, why, or how was placed at the beginning of the sentence, followed by the subject and the verb. This differed from standard English, where the subject and verb were inverted in *wh*-questions.

“ask ‘How the fuck I do it?’” (04, Y)

In the data (04, Y), Ramengvrl asked a question using the word "how" followed by the subject "I" and the verb "do". This structure was characteristic of non-inverted wh questions in AAVE.

B. Discussion

1. The use of AAVE on by ‘Ramengvrl’

Words like "jocks" was used for "men", "dope deal" was used for "good opportunity", and "chill," which indicated a calm condition, and "whoop," which implied a loud yell or shout AAVE also featured the usage of slang terminology and distinctive language.

This had been explained that within African American communities, the vocabulary of AAVE acts as a linguistic symbol of solidarity and identity. It helps people feel proud of their culture and sense of belonging, which empowers them to claim their history and fight against language stigma (Wolfram, 2000, p. 82). The usage of vocabulary of AAVE are for identity and community, language attitude, code switching, language variation, and so on (Wolfram, 2000, p. 82).

One characteristic of African American Vernacular English that distinguished out was the contraction of AAVE. Here, Ramengvrl used contractions such as “I’mma” and "I'm gonna" for "I am going to", “wanna” for “want to”, “y’all” for “you all”, and “kinda” for “kind of”.

In addition to being linguistically useful, contractions in AAVE have significant social and cultural implications. Williams (2020) looked at how

AAVE contractions might affect education and promoted inclusivity and linguistic variety in the classroom (Williams, 2020, p. 8), such as "Imma", contraction of "I'm going to" or "I am going to" (Washington, 2018, p. 45), "Wanna", contraction of "want to" (Robinson, 2017, p. 15), and "Y'all", contraction of "you all" (Williams, 2020, p. 75).

2. Types of grammatical features of AAVE used by 'Ramengvrl'

a. Verb Phrase

1) Copula/Auxiliary Absence

The concept of copula/auxiliary absence was covered in the result, with particular attention paid to the absence of the auxiliary verbs "have" and "are". The text's primary goal was to draw attention to the sentences without these auxiliary verbs.

The absence of copula and auxiliary for contractible forms of *is* and *are* has been one of the most often described structures of AAVE (Wolfram, 2004, p. 117).

2) Invariant *be*

The result was indicated invariant *be*. The usage of "be" in these situations emphasized continuous or ongoing actions, highlighting the unique linguistic characteristics of AAVE.

Invariant *be* in sentences also referred to as non-finite *be*, habitual *be*, and *be*₂, is probably the most salient grammatical trait of AAVE, to the point of becoming a stereotype. (Wolfram, 2004, p. 118).

b. Negation

1) Ain't

The word "ain't," which substitutes for the conventional "isn't," is used as a negation according to the result.

AAVE utilizes "*ain't*" as a general preverbal negative for the present tense forms of "*be*" (*am not, isn't, aren't*) and for the perfect auxiliary forms of "*haven't*" and "*hasn't*." The utilization of "*ain't*" mirrors the structure of "*be+not*" in Standard English. The application of "*ain't*" also aligns with the use of "*do not*". Additionally, the practice of negative concord is also a prominent characteristic of the negation structure in AAVE (Howe, 2005, p. 174).

2) Multiple negation

The double negative in the sentence served to further highlight the Ramengvrl's dislike for the subject matter. Similar emphasis was put on her lack of need for an introduction in the following sentences. Lastly, it implied that no one was aware of her hopping by using double negation.

It participates in negative concord, or multiple negation, in which a single negative proposition may be marked both within the verb phrase and on postverbal indefinites (Howe, 2005, p. 174).

c. Nominal

1) Y'all and possessive they

The examples provided showed how "Y'all" was used in place of "You all" in a variety of situations, including expressing desires.

The use of the second person plural is quite common in both Southern and Northern versions of AAVE and therefore contrasts with second person plural formation in regions that are characterized by variants such as *youse*, *you guys*, or *youns* (Wolfram, 2004, p. 125).

2) Absence of relative pronoun

One notable aspect of AAVE was the frequent absence of relative pronouns like "who", "which", or "that".

Urban AAVE also shares null subjective relative pronoun in embedded sentences (Wolfram, 2004, p. 126).

d. Question Formation

1) Non-inverted *wh* question

Using the subject "I", the verb "do", and the phrase "how", Ramengvrl asked a question. This format was typical of AAVE non-inverted *wh* questions.

According to Wolfram (2004, p. 126), questions can be structured without employing subject-auxiliary inversion. These

non-inverted forms are typically found *with* "wh-" questions and syntactically straightforward statements.