AN ANALYSIS OF WORD FORMATION OF ENGLISH SLANG USED IN POLO G'S SONG LYRICS

Lakeisha Annisaa Choiroh[1]
Universitas Widyatama

Meita Lukitawati Sujatna[2]
Universitas Widyatama

Lakeisha.choiroh@widyatama.ac.id[1]

ABSTRACT

There were two different speech patterns that may be classified as formal and informal type. Informal speech pattern is also well-known as slang. The informal one was popularly referred to as slang. Slang was an informal language that was formed by a particular group of people and utilized by teens in the contemporary period. Slang was used not just in everyday speech but also in literary works such as songs. A song was a literary work that could both depict reality and convey a person's emotions. This research uses a descriptive qualitative technique to analyze the slang terms that may be found in seven of Polo G's song lyrics. The word class and the slang word formation are the main topics of this research. There are 8 of data that have been gathered from the lyrics. The study indicates that slang terminology like "blending," "clipping," and "acronym" are used in the lyrics. According to the research, the slang terms utilized in the lyrics include blending, clipping, and acronyms. And coinage. Word formation in Polo G's song lyrics is mostly produced by clipping and acronyms.
Keywords: Slang, Song lyrics, Types of Word Formation, Word Formation

INTRODUCTION

Slang is a controversial topic nowadays, and the debate on its definition, classification, and linguistic relevance is always hot. The word "slang" has been loosely used by many sociolinguists who mistake it with such language variants as "can't," "jargon," "dialect," "vernacular," or "accent," and it has been incorrectly defined by many lexicographers who prefer to limit it to colloquial or vulgar language (bad). Additionally, because they do not fit within the typical word-formation patterns of the standard language, many slang formations have long been disregarded by morphologists working with the English system (Aronoff, 1976; Mayerthaler, 1981; Bauer, 1983; Scalise, 1984; Dressler et al. 1987, among others).

Other slang formations, however, have been briefly discussed because "they result from the same ordinary word-building processes that give rise to the general vocabulary" (Eble 1996: 9).

The two types of speaking styles are formal and casual, respectively. Slang is another term for informal speaking patterns. Yanchun and Yanhong (2013) assert that slang might take the form of a single word, a combination of words, or a phrase. Slang is a kind of casual language that is used in casual settings.

Slang is also present in literary works that are related to society, such as poetry, novels, short tales, movies, and music (Oktavia, 2017). The language of this new period, which will update the vernacular languages in a decade, months, or even days, may be influenced by literary works. Songs, particularly those of the Rap or Hip-Hop genre, are among the literary works that have had the most influence on the development of slang terminology. These songs often have significant and artistic lyrics about sarcasm and rage. Rap songs using American slang are often created and used by men and Black Americans (Yanchun & Yanhong, 2013).

Word-formation processes, including acronyms, prefixes and suffixes, compounding, blending, clipping, backformation, conversion, conversion, coinage, and other processes, are mentioned by Yule (2006: 52–59) and are documented in both slang and standard English.

Definition by Kolln & Funk (2008), a word class is "a set of words that display the same formal properties, especially their inflections, and distribution." According to Carter & McCarthy (2006), the primary word classes—traditionally referred to as parts of speech—are nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions.

The research questions in this research are entitled "The Analysis of Word Formation of English Slang Used in Polo G's Song Lyrics" specifically: (1) What types of slang word formation in Polo G's song lyrics? (2) What word class of slang word formation is in Polo G's songs?

The current research focuses mainly on the formation of slang words used in Polo G's songs. The data from this study are taken from the lyrics of Polo G's songs. The writer focuses on the theory of George, and Yule (2006) about word formation and the theory of Carter & McCarthy (2006) about word class. In addition, the writer also identifies data based on the types of word formation and identifies the word class of slang contained in Polo G's songs.

The research will investigate the analysis of Polo G's, which is termed "The Analysis of Word Formation of English Slang Used in Polo G's Song Lyrics." As we know, teenagers nowadays like listening to Rapper songs that make them cool and popular. Taurus Tremani Bartlett, known professionally as Polo G, is an American rapper. The writer will conduct research about some of Polo G's songs.

The following is a list of songs used in this thesis: Heartless (feat. Mustard), Headshot (feat. Lil Tjay & Fivio Foreign), I Know, Partin Ways, DND, Martin & Gina. The writer makes use of an online or internet dictionary.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In The Study of Language (Third Edition), George Yule claimed that word-formation processes can produce new words in a few different ways. Yule (2006: 52–29) claims. The components include acronyms, prefixes and suffixes, compounding, backformation, blending, coinage, clipping, and Multiple Processes.

  a. Acronyms

Words created from the first letters of a group of other words are called acronyms. According to Yule, These can be forms such as CD (compact disk) (2006: 57). The technique of creating an acronym involves starting a new term using the beginning letters of a group of words.

  b. Blending

Combining two different phrases to create a new, singular term is called blending. When two words are blended, the beginning of one word is usually taken and joined to the end of the other.

  c. Back Formation

In the highly specialized process of backformation, a word of one kind—typically a noun—is reduced from another word of a different kind—typically a verb. Backformation may be seen in the process of television and editing, which begins as nouns and subsequently backforms into verbs, such as televise and edit.

  d. Clipping

This happens when a term with many syllables is condensed into a shorter version, often with just one syllable. This form is frequently used in informal conversations. Based on the slang dictionary found online. A colloquialism Thank you is the normal form for "thx."

  e. Coinage

Coinage is the result of a new term being created; these words are typically created in relation to a company's product. Usually, it creates new words by inventing brand names. For example, Google is a company's product from technology.

  f. Borrowing

One method for creating new words is Borrowing, which incorporates words from other languages and then changes them. Numerous terms from other languages, including Dutch, French, and Spanish, were incorporated into English. For instance, Dope is derived from the Dutch word "doop" (the standard form is drugs)

  g. Compounding

Compounding is the process of combining two separate words to generate a single form. When two or more words are merged to form a single complicated term, this

is known as compounding. For instance, Butter face (the standard form is ugly female)

   h.   *Prefixes and suffixes (affixes)*

It should be clear from the following collection of words that certain affixes (such as, for example, un-, pre-) must be inserted at the beginning of a word. We refer to these as prefixes.

   i.   *Multiple Process*

When new words are formed, they go through many steps, starting with the one-word creation process. For instance, the term "deli" is a clipped word from delicatessen and was adopted from German. The research makes use of Carter & McCarthy's (2006) part of speech theory, which states that the noun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, and conjunction are the primary word classes that are commonly referred to as parts of speech. Only the five main word classes, noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, and adverb, will be examined in this study.

   1.   *Noun*

Carter and McCarthy (2006) define a noun as the name of an item or concept. They depict the many classes and categories of objects found in the world, such as people, animals, locations, occasions, attributes, and nations.

   2.   *Pronoun*

Pronouns belong to a closed-word class. The context in which a pronoun appears has a significant impact on how its meaning can be deduced (Carter & McCarthy, 2006:197).

   3.   *Adjective*

Adjectives explain the characteristics, attributes, or conditions that are attached to a noun or a pronoun.

   4.   *Verb*

A verb, according to Carter & McCarthy (2006), is a term that describes an action or a state of being. A verb expresses what an object, person, or event does or occurs.

   5.   *Adverb*

Adverbs are a word class with a variety of uses (Carter & McCarthy, 2006). It frequently appears between the subject and its verb and can strengthen or weaken the meaning of a verb, adjective, or other adverb.

METHOD

This research utilizes a descriptive-analytical method in a qualitative form. Words, phrases, or an accurate description of the data's features make up the gathered data. According to Hardani et al. (2020), descriptive research aims to give symptoms, facts, or occurrences about the features of a certain group or place in a methodical and precise manner.

The research object taken in writing this thesis proposal is the word

formation of English slang and the word class of English slang used. The study's data were derived from the songs of *Polo G*. The data source is chosen to show the types of word formation and word class of slang used in the songs.

FINDING

This research contains data analysis on word formation and word class of English slang. Blending 2 data, Clipping 2 data, Acronym 2 data, Coinage 1 data, and Borrowing 1 data were found. The total data is 8 data of 5 types of word formation in Polo G's songs.

Table 1. Data of English Slang

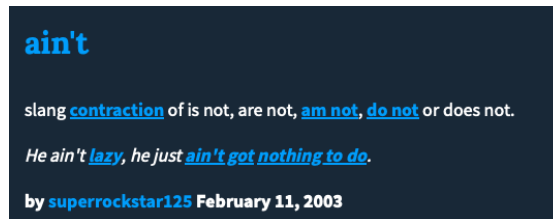| No.	Types	Data of English Slang
1	Blending	1. "My youngins heartless, so they ***ain't*** playin' no games" 2. "We see the police, and we speed up Uh, yeah, look, they ***tryna*** catch us and link us."
2	Clipping	3. "Nobody loves you ***'til*** you dead; that's when they might care" 4. "I just put all my feelings inside the ***stu'*** "
3	Acronym	5. "Make sure my phone on ***DND***, I keep my door closed" 6. "Lil Capalot, ***G-O-A-T***, yeah, that's that guy's initials"
4	Coinage	7. "Now you done went from ***H&M*** to a designer fiend"
5	Borrowing	8. "On that corner I can't stay up out that ***dope*** gang"
	Total	8 Data

DISCUSSION

Blending

Data 1

[Chorus: Polo G]

"My youngins heartless, so they ***ain't*** playin' no games"

(0:23-0:25)

Blending type of word formation was found in data 1 in the lyrics of Polo G's songs called Heartless (feat. Mustard). In the lyrics above, it can be found one kind of word formation, namely *Blending*. Blending is the process of mixing two distinct phrases to form a single new word. With the sentence "My youngins heartless, so they ***ain't*** playin' no games" (Standard word *are +not = **ain't***). The meaning of this slang is are not. And about the lyrics, he means that youngins talking about his little homies (particularly friends) and for ***ain't*** playin' no games mean that they are not messed up. The lyrics is about his feels with his childhood friends. The song's lyrics indicate that the word "ain't" is an informal way of saying " are not" as in "they are not playing no games".

Based on the dictionary from the website Urban dictionary stated that ain't is slang word. Ain't is the slang for the word are not. Thus, the word class of is not a verb. In conversational and casual communication, many speakers frequently use the pronoun "ain't," particularly in specific dialects and geographical areas. Utilization of it carries that the general population frequently uses this phrase to denote a poor socioeconomic position, a particular place, or a lack of education. Furthermore, dictionaries often classify its usage as nonstandard.
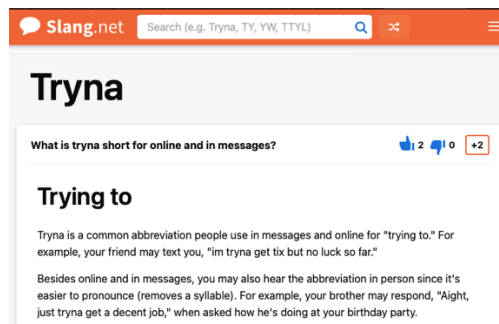
Data 2

[Verse 2: Polo G & Fivio Foreign]

"We see the police, and we speed up

Uh, yeah, look, they ***tryna*** catch us and link us."

(1:11-1:15)

A blending type of word formation was found in data 2 in the lyrics of Polo G's song called Headshot (feat. Lil Tjay & Fivio Foreign). In the lyrics above, it can be found one kind of word formation, namely Blending. In this line, "they ***tryna*** catch us and link us." Combining two different phrases to create a new, singular term is called blending. The meaning of this slang ***tryna*** is *trying + to*. Which there is a combination of two words. And about the lyrics, he means that if the police notice his gang (a bunch of friends), the police will definitely catch him and his friends. The lyrics are about the police always looking for bad things to put them in jail because, in the United States, black people are always associated with negative things.

The data shows any words used in American slang. The word ***tryna*** is found in the dictionary from the website slang.net as a slang word. In data 2, the word

class verb was found. The word ***tryna*** came from Trying (try + -ing) + to, have the same meaning as try (v).

Because the slang terms discovered are a result of blending, data 1 and data 2 are included in word formation blending. They are familiar with the fact that blending is the act of combining two different sentences into one new term. As a result, the slang terms in the Polo G songs ain't, and tryna is a result of the blending process.

Clipping
Data 3
[Chorus]
"Nobody loves you **_'til_** you dead; that's when they might care"
<div align="center">(1:28-1:31)</div>

Clipping type of word formation was found in data 3 in the lyrics of Polo G's song called I Know. The specific type for this *clipping* is *Fore-back Clipping*. The process of cutting one or more polysyllabic words shortens them, known as *clipping*. The meaning of this word is until = **_'til_**. And about the lyrics, it explained that no one really loves you as much as you do when you die. Those lyrics are aimed at someone who is truly sincere and caring, but it's really hard to find.

> *Until, till,* and *'til* are all used in modern English to denote when something will happen. *Until* and *till* are both standard, but what might be surprising is that *till* is the older word. *'Til,* with one *L,* is an informal and poetic shortening of *until.* The form *'till,* with an additional *L,* is rarely if ever used today.

The word 'til' was found in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary on the website. In data 3, the word class conjunction. According to the Cambridge Dictionary, use until as a subordinating conjunction to connect an action or an event. It's implied in these lyrics that perhaps if you die, they will love you.
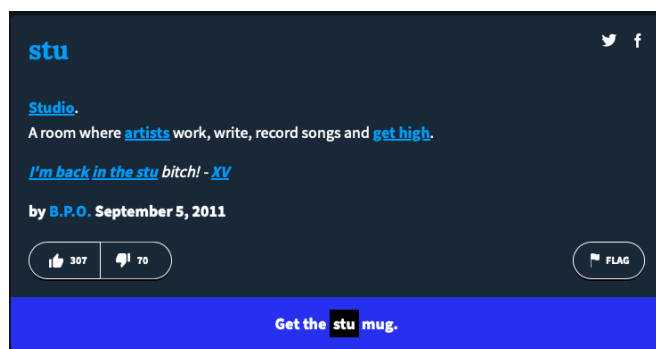Data 4
[Verse 2]
"I just put all my feelings inside the **_stu'_** "
<div align="center">(1:53-1:54)</div>

The clipping type of word formation was found in data 4 in the lyrics of Polo G's songs called Partin Ways. Clipping is when the words are created by cutting the back, which is called final clipping. The meaning of this slang is studio or a recording studio = **_stu'_**. And about the lyrics, explained that if he had a felling for someone's he would take his feelings to the studio and to confessed his feelings. As he bids farewell to his former life on the streets, he considers the psychological effects it had on him.

The slang word ***stu'*** or studio is found in the website Urban Dictionary. In data 4, the word class noun was found. Noun show the class and category of things in the world, such as place. The word stu' in question is an informal term for studio, as is described here. A word class noun called studio designates a specific location.

The research's data 3 and 4 describe the word formation process of clipping, or word shortening. The terms til' and stu, which refer to the clipping process are slang versions of until and studio.
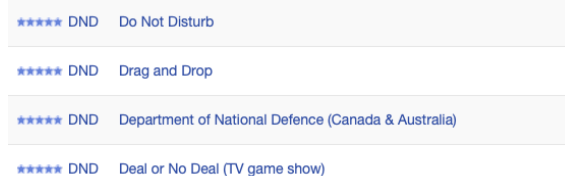
Acronym
Data 5
[Verse 1]
"Make sure my phone on **DND**, I keep my door closed"
(0:35-0:38)

Acronym type of word formation was found in data 5 in the lyrics of Polo G's songs Called DND. In the lyrics above, it can be found one kind of word formation, namely *acronym*. This process happens because the name of the phrase is too long to say. Therefore, the speakers create a shorter way to say the phrase. The meaning of the **DND** word is *Do Not Disturb*. **DND** is an *acronym* for the cell phone setting "*Do Not Disturb*." He uses this to demonstrate how people try to contact him on his phone every day because of his popularity.

The slang word ***DND*** or Do Not Disturb is found in the Acronym Finder dictionary. In data 5, the word class verb was found. Verbs are descriptive terms for activities. On this date 5, the word DND was found, which refers to Do Not Disturb on a cellphone. But, DND can be interpreted or Acronym in various meanings, for example Drag and drop which is acronym as DND refers to tools on a laptop, then there is DND which means deal or no deal in TV game show.

And the last but not least there is also DND as a department of National Defense, namely supporting the Canadian Armed which serves at sea, land and in the air with the Navy, Army, Air Force and special forces to defend Canada's interest at home and abroad. Thus, what is meant by DND in data 5 is referring to cellphones.
Data 6
[Chorus: Polo G]
"Lil Capalot, __*G-O-A-T*__, yeah, that's that guy's initials"

<div align="center">(2:11-2:13)</div>

Acronym type of word formation was found in data 6 in the lyrics of Polo G's songs called Heartless (feat. Mustard). In the lyrics above, it can be found one kind of word formation, namely *acronym.* The standard word for *GOAT* is Greatest of All the time. In this lyric, he used the GOAT in a sentence that speaks about him personally rather than just as a rapper. Just saying that he is great at what he does. He is just great at being who he is.

The slang word **GOAT**, or greatest of all time, is found in the Cambridge Dictionary. In data 6, the word class noun was found. Usually, a goat just calls for an animal goat, but in this data, 6 GOAT refers to the greatest of all time. It can be seen from the dictionary that GOAT refers to or explains someone who has better performance than other people.

Examples of the word formation acronym process, which involves generating new terms from the essence of a set of other words or abbreviations, are shown in data 5 and data 6. Do Not Disturb and Greatest of all the time are often known by the acronyms DND and GOAT.

Coinage
Data 7
[Verse 1]
"Now you done went from __***H&M***__ to a designer fiend"

<div align="center">(0:38-0:40)</div>

Coinage type of word formation was found in data 7 in the lyrics of Polo G's songs called Martin & Gina. In the lyrics above, it can be found one kind of word formation, namely *coinage. Coinage* mostly indicates the name of the products and company. In this line, he used to write ***H&M*** as known as a clothing brand.

H&M

Thats a nice european clothing shop
cheap and good
theres one in chicago.
in new york, too.

H&M = Hennes und Mauritz
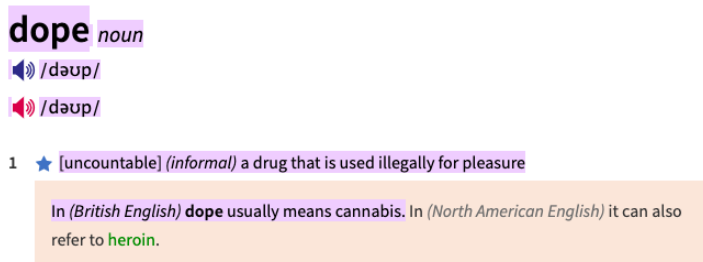
by mazl November 25, 2005

Based on the dictionary from the website Urban dictionary, H&M was found as a clothing shop. It can be seen in the dictionary above that he is meaning of this sentence is usually H&M's clothes are relatively cheap. Polo G is boasting that his girlfriend used to wear cheap clothes, but now that she is with him, she gets more expensive clothes form designer brands. The word **H&M** found in the urban dictionary. In data 7 the word class noun was found. Store has the refence of shop, but the shop referred to here is wider and greater, for example the H&M clothing store. Therefore, H&M was added to the word class noun. Stores are not basically for selling things; they are also typically used for storage facilities.

Borrowing
Data 8
"On that corner I can't stay up out that ***dope*** gang"
                                        (0:34 – 0:37)

Borrowing type of word formation was found in data 8 in the lyrics of Polo G's songs called Heartless (feat. Mustard). In the lyrics above, one kind of word formation can be found, namely *Borrowing*. Borrowing is a technique for creating new words by taking from another language and modifying it. Dope comes from the Dutch word (sauce) doop. In this line the lyrics mean that he can't avoid the dope gang.

dope *noun*
🔊 /dəʊp/
🔊 /dəʊp/

1 ⭐ [uncountable] *(informal)* a drug that is used illegally for pleasure

In *(British English)* **dope** usually means cannabis. In *(North American English)* it can also refer to heroin.

Based on the dictionary from the website Oxford Leaner's Dictionaries that dope found as informal word meaning a drug. The dictionary above explains that the word Dope usually means cannabis (illegally for pleasure). In data 8 the word class noun was found. The word dope is usually used by teenagers to describe things, people or event.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, from the data that has been analysed in the lyrics of Polo G's song, there are several slangs found and contained in the lyrics of the song. Mostly, slang exists in several hip hop songs or rap songs such as Polo G's. based on the above analysis, there are five types of word formation used to analyse slang word. The first type is Blending, such as ain't and tryna. The second types clipping, such as til' and stu'. The third types of slang Acronym is DND and GOAT. The fourth types Coinage is H&M, and the fifth types Borrowing is dupe. And for the types of Back Formation, Compounding, Prefixes and suffixes (affixes), and Multiple Processes, there is no slang has been found. And also found word classes, namely 3 verbs, one conjunction and four nouns on the slang word formation.

REFERENCES

Astuti, E. D., Indrawati, N. L. K. M., & Parthama, I. G. N. (2016). The Types and Meaning of Slang Used In "Blind Side" Movie. *Humanis*, *17*(3).

Budasi, I. G., & Bhuwana, I. P. A. (2020). Analysis of Slang Words Formation Found in the Lyrics of Drake's Songs. kata, 22(1), 10-16.

Carter, Ronald. McCarthy, Michael. (2006). Cambridge Grammar of English: A comprehensive guide spoken and written English Grammar and Usage. Cambridge University Press.

Dalzell, Tom (2009). The Routledge Dictionary of: Modern American Slang and Unconventional English. Routledge.

Dwianita, f. N. Word formation of slang used by students of english department at state islamic university of sunan ampel surabaya.

Fatmawaty, R., & Anggraini, P. A. (2019). An Analysis of English Word Formation Processes In Beats Apart Novel By Alanda Kariza And Kevin Aditya. E-Link Journal, 6(1), 164-182.

Febriyanti, A. L. P. K. (2017). An Analysis of The Use of American Slangs on Eminem's Song Lyrics. *Lingua Scientia*, *24*(2), 59-70.

Hacken, Pius ten. (2019). Word Formation in Parallel Architecture: *The Case for a Separate Component.* Springer International Publishing.

Hacken, Pius ten., & Claire Thomas. (2013). The Semantics of Word Formation and Lexicalization. Edinburgh University Press.

Hamawand, Zeki. (2011). Morphology in English: *Word Formation in Cognitive Grammar*. Continuum.

Jakob, J. C. (2018). Analysis of American Slang in The Movie of "The Blind Side". *Journal of English Education Studies*, *1*(2), 79-85.

Jimmi, J. (2014). Slang Expressions Analysis in Grown Ups 2 Movie. *Wanastra: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, *6*(2), 39-47.

Mattiello, Elisa. (2008). Introduction to English Slang: *A Description of Its Morphology, Semantics and Sociology.* Milano: Polimetrica International Scientific Publisher.

Perdana, A. (2010). A Study On Word Formation Processes Of Gay Words Found In "GAYa Nusantara" Magazines (Doctoral dissertation, UNIVERSITAS AIRLANGGA).

Prastikawati, E. F., Pratama, F. G., & Wiyaka, W. (2021). Word formation analysis found in English slangs used by Justin Bieber on Instagram. ELTALL: English Language Teaching, Applied Linguistic and Literature, 2(2), 71.

Rachman, N., & Simatupang, E. C. (2022). Compound Words in Evermore Album by Taylor Swift: A Morphology Study. *Ethical Lingua: Journal of Language Teaching and Literature*, *9*(2), 619-627.

Ratih, E., & Gusdian, R. I. (2018). Word formation processes in English new words of Oxford English dictionary (OED) online. Celtic: A Journal of Culture, English Language Teaching, Literature and Linguistics, 5(2), 24-35.

Siahaan, C. K. (2020). An Analysis of Word Formation in Instagram of Sharena Delon: Morphological Approach (Doctoral dissertation, Prodi Sastra Inggris).

Simatupang, E. C., & Heryono, H. (2022). New-Word Formation And Social Disruption On Metaverse. *English Review: Journal of English Education*, *10*(3), 1013-1022.

Sinaga, Y. K., Herman, H., & Tannuary, A. (2022). Discovering the Pattern of Pop Song Artist's Word Formation Processes for Slangs. Elsya: Journal of English Language Studies, 4(2), 157-167.

Tubagus, N. B. E. N., Suharsih, S., & Hakim, R. (2021). A Morphological Analysis of Slang Words Used by Characters in "Ralph Breaks the Internet" Movie. *E-Structural (English Studies on Translation, Culture, Literature, and Linguistics)*, *4*(01), 55-67.

Yule, George (2006). The study of language: *Third Edition*. Cambridge University Press.