

Code-Switching Reasons in Daily Interaction among Postgraduate Students of English Language Studies in Hasanuddin University

Muh. Yahya Rahman

Faculty of Cultural Sciences - Hasanuddin University
Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Abdul Hakim Yassi

Faculty of Cultural Sciences - Hasanuddin University
Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Hamzah A. Machmoed

Faculty of Cultural Sciences - Hasanuddin University
Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Abstract:- This study aims to find out the reasons the postgraduate students use code-switching in their daily interactions. The method of this research is a qualitative method and a questionnaire on google form is used to collect the data. The result from this research is that the students' code-switch in their daily interaction to make the message much clearer, to keep the interaction going on, and to emphasize the message. to clarify the message, to convince the addressee, to quote something, to involve another party, to show respect, to show social status, and other reasons such as to tell a secret and to improve their English skills, to practice their English, to arouse other people to speak English, to talk about taboos, to talk about ghosts, to use English spontaneously when watching YouTube or having a chat with friends, to discuss sensitive topics, to look classy and educated, to adjust to the situation and conditions or the interlocutors, to borrow English words, for euphemism, to comment those who do not come from Indonesia, to communicate their intention easily, to become more confident, too shy to express some feelings or thoughts in the Indonesian language, and to swear.

Keywords:- Code-Switching, English Students, English as a Second Language, Bilingual.

I. INTRODUCTION

Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used by community members to interact[1]. It has a very vital role since languages and humans cannot be separated. Language is the normal tool that humans use to communicate. It enables humans to express their feelings, thoughts, needs, even their identities. Gimson[2] states that a language is a system of conventional signals used for communication by a whole community. In Indonesia, there are then 700 living languages are spoken including the national language, local, Therefore, mostly Indonesians are bilinguals.

Bilingualism is the ability to speak two languages at the same time. It could range from a low level of language competency in two languages to a high level of proficiency that validates the speaker's ability to speak with native-like

fluency. To dissimilar people, bilingualism means different things. Bilingualism refers to a variety of skills and situations.

Bhatti, Shamsudin & Said pointed out that language plays an important part in interacting with each other because It lets utterers to broaden their horizons, express their thoughts, ideas, and moods in society, and it serves as a worldwide language. English provides a stage to communicate for those speaking the language. Bilingualism has become a relatively widespread phenomenon in today's world due to the expanding tendency of linguistic globalization. Speakers routinely move from one language to another to suit communication demands in bilingual societies all around the world. Code-switching is the term for the phenomenon of switching between languages.

Code-switching is a very general phenomenon in Indonesia. Eldin [3] defined code-switching as a phrase used to describe the process of conversing from one language to another. It can also be well-defined as a group of words, phrases, and sentences produced by sentence limitations in a similar speech circumstance. It may be determined that code-switching can be defined as the act of speaking in several languages interchangeably in order to overcome linguistic barriers, produce good presentations, and, most significantly, as a critical step toward attaining successful communication. Code-switching can be thought as the skill to use more than one language in a single discourse. This often occurs in bilingualism and multilingualism communities like in Indonesia, a country where the people are most able to speak two languages.

Yassi, A.H.[4], stated that code-switching or mixing has become an unmarked phenomenon for a multilingual society. It seems to be almost no single country in the world may escape from this phenomenon. This speech behavior has nowadays become trendy among Indonesian people in Indonesia especially the elite ones. It is quite easy to find them to switch from Indonesian to English whenever they communicate with others. Therefore, the researcher interested in finding out the reasons the postgraduate students of English language studies in Hasanuddin university use code-switching in their daily interaction.

II. PREVIOUS STUDIES

The study on code-switching has been studied by many researchers. It shows that it is an interesting object to be studied.

Sutrisno and Ariesta [5], state that Code mixing happens when conversants use two languages at the same time; the word refers to all cases involving lexical and grammatical aspects, and it is a switching of languages. They found that two influencers in Indonesia on social media called Instagram are proactively using code-mixing, and they each have their own motives for doing so. The reasons for code-switching they found are: (1) They use code-mixing since they want Indonesians to grow as individuals by mastering the English language. English has become a world language for communicating with people from various countries, and many businesses utilize it as well. They want to show others, especially their followers, that English can be enjoyable and that anyone can speak it. (2) They mix codes since it's become second nature to them. Because they grew up with relatives and friends who spoke English, or because they attended an international school or college, they have developed this tendency. They find it difficult to converse entirely in Bahasa Indonesia because of this habit, so they decide to combine it with English.; (3) Because some sponsors and marketers paid them to post in full English or blend it with Indonesia, they employ code-mixing.; and (4) They publish at a specific hour because it is when they and their Instagram followers are most active. If they post at a specific time, their followers will be more likely to respond. It can be inferred that influencers' use of code-mixing motivates their followers to learn English and that social media can be a tool for their followers to practice their English.

In their study, Bhatti, Shamsudin, and Said found that all three types of code-switching were commonly used are: Tag switching, Inter-sentential switching, and Intra-sentential switching. The qualitative research included observation of the lecturers' lectures as well as transcriptions of the talks' audio recordings. Educators code-switched to sustain discipline, translate new vocabulary, and develop solidarity and intimate ties with their students, according to their findings. Latief et al[6] argue that the translation is a procedure of transferring the message starting from source language toward target language.

Code-switching happened in a variety of settings, including the teaching of grammar, explaining complex concepts, and repeating directions to those who found the target language difficult to understand. Even though they were despite being aware of the language policy, participants in the speaking classrooms continued to code-switch to Urdu since the kids' English abilities were insufficient.

Alhourani [7], states that The major goal of his research is to find out how four bilingual Saudi speakers use code-switching in different situations. They discovered that there are several communication roles of Arabic English code flipping among bilingual Saudi speakers at Jouf University,

such as quoting, showing off, changing topics, and expressing feelings, based on the data analysis. The study's goal is to make a minor contribution to filling a gap in the field of Arabic-English code-switching research, especially among Saudi multilingual speakers, code-switching is a problem.

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

There are some concepts used by the writer to analyze the reasons the postgraduate students of English language studies in Hasanuddin University.

a. Sociolinguistics

There are so many scholars who have defined sociolinguistics. Gumperz[8] stated that sociolinguistics is a new field of study that looks at the language usage of certain human groups and uses data sources and analytical paradigms that are not the same as those used by linguists.

b. Bilingualism and Multilingualism

Eldin[3] states that code-switching is a result of bilingualism and multilingualism, while Cenoz[9] states that Bilingualism is the ability to communicate in two languages, while multilingualism is the ability to communicate in more than two languages. Therefore, code-switching is the outcome of being bilingual or multilingual,

c. Code Switching

Eldin[3] also states that in code-switching, a speaker may shift from one code to another, either purposefully or unintentionally, in a variety of contexts. For many different reasons, a bilingual teacher in a classroom may switch from one language to another, from one dialect to another, or from one style to another. For example, a bilingual teacher in a classroom may switch from one language to another because he or she wants to elaborate on a point that he or she is explaining. This transition is referred to as "code-switching" by sociolinguists. He also claims that code-switching takes place inside a single phrase.

d. Types of Code Switching

Hoffmann[10] proposes three different methods of code swapping. Those categories are constrained by various structural circumstances, and they are communicated at various levels and in various ways in distinct bilingual environments. They are:

1. Inter-sentential switching

This type of code-swapping happens between sentences or clauses, each of which is written in a different language. The utterance is made up of two sentences, each in a different language. When a mature Spanish-English bilingual says *Teniazapatosblancos*, for example. *Unpoco*, they were off-white, you know," begins the statement in Spanish, followed by an English remark. Inter-sentential switching is the term for this type of switching.

2. Intra-sentential switching

In a clause or sentence border, this form of code-switching occurs. When two or more lexical items from one code are put into a grammatical form or a phrase from another

code, such as when a French/English bilingual says “Va, chercher mare (go and fetch and mare) and bribe him avec un chocolate chaud (with a hot chocolate) with cream on top”

3. Emblematic switching

Tags, exclamations, and specific set words from one language are put into an utterance otherwise in another, such as when a Panjabi/English says It's a nice day, hana?" (hai n? isn't it). Another case is when a Spanish-American adult speaks in English: Oh! Ay! It was embarrassing! It was very nice, though, but I was embarrassed!".

Yassi[11] shows 5 types of Indonesian-English code-switching found in seminars, meetings, TV dialogues, and Chitchats. They are (1) Intraclausal, (2) Intraphrasal, (3) Intralexical, (4) interclausal, and (5) tag. In spite of the fact that he found five patterns of switching types, almost all code-switching occurs at minor constituents such as within a clause, or a phrase, or a word boundary, comprising 95% of his data rather than at major constituents, above the clause boundary. He also pointed out that his study has found two types of code-switching which the researcher believes to be universally applicable for any language situation especially those which have a similar situation as the language situation in Indonesia. They are intraphrasal and intralexical switching. The latter is claimed to be a new hybrid used by Indonesians. This eventually someday becomes 'Indolish'.

e. Reason of Code Switching

According to Yassi [11], in spite of the fact that his study discovered seventeen function patterns and motivations for code swapping. in Indonesian-English bilingual discourse, only eleven could be categorized as an effective pattern. They are 1). Message repetition, 2). Desire to play with well-known of English expressions. 3). Quotation. 4). Lack of a set of Indonesian words. 5). Greater explicitness and simplicity in English. 6). Lack of a good Indonesian translation. 7). Message neutralization. 8). Integrated English words into Indonesian. 9). Nativization. 10). Anglicization. 11). Message Qualification.

His analysis on the questionnaire reveals that his study found fourteen patterns of functions and reasons for code-switching. They are: 1). The meaning is more complete in English. 2). English is simpler. 3). To make the message much clearer. 4). To emphasize the message. 5). To clarify the message. 6). Lack of a set of Indonesian words. 7). To keep the conversation going on. 8). To show social status. 9). To convince the addressees. 10). None, it's simply a habit. 11). It sounds more modern, educated, and elite. 12). To keep intimacy and solidarity. 13). To activate their English. 14). To involve a third party in an interaction.

Yassi's study also found twelve patterns of functions and reasons for code-switching in English-based code-switching. However, only five of them that is classified as the effective pattern. They are:

1. To signal lack of English of proficiency
2. To resort on a translation
3. To signal a seek for a help
4. To signal a respect

5. To signal a solidarity

Meanwhile from the questionnaire, he found thirteen patterns of functions and reasons for code-switching. They are:

1. To speed up the addressees' comprehension
2. Feel much closer to the addressees
3. To resort on a translation
4. Feel more convenient, secure, and confident to convey the message
5. To clarify and emphasize the message
6. Experience troublesome in expressing certain English expressions such as technical terms, culturally loaded terms, or expressions.
7. To show a respect
8. To express sympathy or concern
9. To switch the topic of discussion
10. To tell a joke
11. To exert a warning or a reprimand
12. To quote
13. To seek for a help

According to Hoffman[10], there are seven reasons people code-switch:

1. Talking about a particular topic

People may prefer to discuss a specific issue in one language over another. A speaker may feel more at ease and free to express their emotions, excitements, or even wrath in a language other than their native one.

2. Quoting somebody else

Hoffman[10] suggested that “people sometimes like to quote a famous expression or saying of some well-known figures”.

3. Being emphatic about something

When someone speaking in a language other than their native tongue wants to be enthusiastic about something, they suddenly want to be emphatic about it, as Hoffman[10] stated she/he will switch from his second language to his first language either intentionally or unintentionally.

4. Interjection (Inserting sentence fillers or sentence connectors)

Regarding the reason, Hoffman[10] suggested that Interjections and sentence connectors are occasionally marked by language flipping and language mixing among bilingual or multilingual people. It could happen accidentally or on purpose.

5. Repetition used for clarification

Base on Hoffman[10] statement that when a bilingual wants to clarify his or her speech so that the audience can understand it better, he or she can utilize both of the languages he knows to convey the same thing (the utterance is said repeatedly)

6. Intention of clarifying the speech content for the interlocutor

According to Hoffman[9], when a bilingual individual converses with another bilingual, there will be a lot of code switching and code mixing. It entails ensuring that the content of his or her speech flows smoothly and is simply understood by the audience.

7. Expressing a group identity

To indicate a group's identity, code-switching and code-mixing can also be employed. Academics' communication styles in their disciplinary groups are clearly distinct from those of other groups.

In this study, the writer uses Yassi's theory on code-switching since he also analyzed Indonesians' utterances, and found more types and reasons why Indonesian code switch their languages. However, the writer only focuses on the reasons of code-switching.

IV. METHODOLOGY

A. Research Design

This study used a mixed-method design, which can be divided into three types: explanatory, exploratory, and triangulation. [12].

B. Participants of the study

Data were collected from 20 postgraduate students of English language studies in Hasanuddin university who often use code-switching in their daily interactions.

C. Data Collection

The data were collected by sending the students questionnaires on the google form.

D. Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data in this study was transcribed, gathered, and analyzed qualitatively before being assessed quantitatively by computing the frequency of occurrences. The theoretical framework used in this study is adapted from Yassi[4]. The present study is descriptive qualitative and quantitative in nature. It relies much on a content-based analysis.

V. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

According to the findings of the study, the participants gave several reasons for using code-switching in their interactions..

Table 1: Respondents' objectives for switching

No	Objectives	Token	%
1	Make the message much clearer	9	0.16%
2	Keep the interaction going on	9	0.16%
3	Emphasize the message	9	0.16%
4	Clarify the message	8	0.14%
5	Convince the addressee	5	0.09%
6	Quote something	7	0.12%
7	Involve another party	1	0.01%
8	Show a respect	3	0.05%
9	Show a social status	4	0.07%
Total		55	

For example, can be seen from table 1, the most significant reasons of code-switching are to make the message much clearer, to keep the interaction going on, and to emphasize the message comprising 0.16% of each data. This is then followed by the purpose of clarifying the message (0.14%), convince the addressee (0.09%), to quote something (0.12%), to involve another party (0.01%), to show respect (0.05%), and to show a social status (0.07%).

Table 2: Respondents' other reasons

Respondents	Other reasons of code-switching
Student 1	-
Student 2	to tell a secret and to improve my English also to arouse other people for speaking English
Student 3	I like using English on a daily basis to actively speaking (practicing) Talking taboo topic Telling a secret Talking about ghost
Student 4	I just like to use English or sometimes just comes out spontaneously like it always happens when i watch youtube or have a chit-chat with friends. Another reason is discussing a sensitive topic or telling secrets
Student 5	-
Student 6	sometimes English terms are easier to understand and straight to the point.
Student 7	To improve the skill
Student 8	Practicing English
Student 9	In order to exclude other people, to look classy and educated and people around me do not understand what I talk about.
Student 10	-
Student 11	To improve my English skill and to refresh it
Student 12	To improve the skill
Student 13	adjust to the situation and conditions or the interlocutor
Student 14	Sometimes I forget the words in the Indonesian language, to sound cool, I want to say something but I don't know it in the Indonesian language (borrowing) for euphemism, to comment on those who do not come from Indonesia.
Student 15	I feel easier to communicate my intention, more confident, and as a sign to emphasize the message that it's become a serious conversation if I switch the language.
Student 16	Sometimes it is to clarify the meaning, and at other times it is to limit the involvement of people in the communication (only for the intended friends who understand English and know the background of my explanation)
Student 17	too shy to express some feelings or thoughts in indo
Student 18	I'll improve my skill and I feel cool if I use English

Student 19	To improve English in communication
Student 20	I often switch my language to English when I want to swear since I feel so rude when I swear in my native language. People who live in English-speaking countries often swear and it is not only when they are angry but also when they are excited. I often say what the heck or hell rather than saying swear words in the Indonesian language.

The result of this research is that the students code-switch in their daily interaction to make the message much clearer, to keep the interaction going on, and to emphasize the message. to clarify the message, to convince the addressee, to quote something, to involve another party, to show respect, to show social status, and other reasons such as to tell a secret and to improve their English skills, to practice their English, to arouse other people to speak English, to talk about taboos, to talk about ghosts, to use English spontaneously when watching YouTube or having a chat with friends, to discuss sensitive topics, to look classy and educated, to adjust to the situation and conditions or the interlocutors, to borrow English words, for euphemism, to comment those who do not come from Indonesia, to communicate their intention easily, to become more confident, too shy to express some feelings or thoughts in the Indonesian language, and to swear.

VI. CONCLUSION

The present study has successfully demonstrated that code-switching is a phenomenon in Indonesia and there are different reasons of code-switching based on postgraduate students of English language studies in Hasanuddin university that the writer found compared with the theory of Yassi[4]. Above all, code-switching seems to be an endless issue which calls for further and more comprehensive studies.

REFERENCES

- [1]. Tammasse, Jumraini, and F. Rahman, "Some difficulties in verbalizing English words and phrases: A case study of suspected dyslexic children," *Asian EFL J.*, 2019.
- [2]. A. C. Gimson, *An introduction to the pronunciation of English*. London: Edward Arnold, 1980.
- [3]. [3] A. A. T. S. Eldin, "Sociolinguistic study of code switching of the Arabic language speakers on social networking," *Int. J. English Linguist.*, vol. 6, no. 4, 2014.
- [4]. A. H. Yassi, *Elites and Code Switching*. Makassar: Pustaka Pena Press, 2011.
- [5]. B. Sutrisno and Y. Ariesta, "Beyond the use of Code Mixing by Social Media Influencers in Instagram," *Adv. Lang. Lit. Stud.*, vol. 10, no. 6, p. 143, 2019, doi: 10.7575/aiac.all.v.10n.6p.143.
- [6]. M. R. A. Latief, N. J. Saleh, and A. Pammu, "The effectiveness of machine translation to improve the system of translating language on cultural context," *IOP Conf. Ser. Earth Environ. Sci.*, vol. 575, no. 1, 2020, doi: 10.1088/1755-1315/575/1/012178.
- [7]. A. Alhourani, "Code Switching as a Communicative Strategy for the Bilingual Saudi Speakers at Jouf University.," *Online Submiss.*, vol. 1, no. 4, pp. 10–19, 2018.
- [8]. J. J. Gumperz, "The sociolinguistics of interpersonal communication," *Discourse Strateg.*, pp. 9–37, 2009, doi: 10.1017/cbo9780511611834.004.
- [9]. J. Cenoz, *Section A: Introduction to Multilingualism*. London: Cambridge University press, 2014.
- [10]. C. Hoffman, *An Introduction to Bilingualism*. London: Longman University of California, 1991.
- [11]. A. H. Yassi, *Code switching as communication strategy*. Yogyakarta: TrustMedia, 2016.
- [12]. M. G. Lodico, D. T. Spaulding, and K. H. Voegtle, *Methods in Educational Research: from Theory to Practice*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2016.