

THE USE OF CODE SWITCHING AS THE LANGUAGE CHOICE AMONG POLITICIANS.

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ABSTRACT

This research discussed about the use of code switching as the language choice among politicians. This research aimed to find out the types and functions of code switching used by politicians. This research focused on the types and functions of code switching based on the theory of types and functions of code switching by Appel and Muysken in 2006. Then, the data were analyzed using descriptive qualitative method. The researcher used note taking as the instrument to find out the valid data. This research was conducted in order to find the types and the functions of code-switching used by politicians in Satu Indonesia and Bicara 4 Mata program. The findings showed that there are two types and two functions of code switching used by politicians as language choice. The researcher concluded that the types of code-switching found in both sources are inter-sentential and intra-sentential code-switching and the functions of code-switching found in both data sources are referential function and expressive function.

Keywords: *Language, Code Switching, language choice, Politicians*

A. Background

Language is a system of signs which is used to communicate with each other. It is not denied that it has a very important role in society or human's life. The study

between language and society is called sociolinguistics. Wardaugh and Fuller (2015:1) states that sociolinguistics studies the relationship between language and society or every day lives in order to get a better understanding of the structure of language and how languages function in communication.

In communication, people often use more than one language. Sometimes they mix their language with their local language or foreign language. This phenomenon is called code-switching. Eldin (2015:1) states that code switching is the act of speaking in different languages interchangeably to overcome language constraints, to deliver speeches effectively and most importantly as a crucial step towards achieving successful communication. Therefore, the phenomenon of people using more than one language in the same time in communication can be called code switching.

Muin (2011:12) states that code switching can be used as communication strategy, because if the speaker cannot express his/her idea in the target language, he/she may combine to another language in order to keep conversation going on. Therefore, it can be said that code switching is a strategy that people use in communication.

Wardaugh (2006:1) states that when two or more people communicate, we can call the system of communication that they employ a code. Code is usually a variant form of the language used to communicate with the clear language of the community. Code is neutral because of its tendency to interpret the cause of emotions. Furthermore, the code is a type of system used by two or more people to communicate with each other.

In holy Qur'an, it has been explained about the importance of speaking or communication as well, especially speaking appropriate words. It has been conveyed to mankind through one of verse in Al-Qur'an surah Al-Azhab verse 70 that is :

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا ﴿٧٠﴾

The verse above means: "O you who believe! Keep your duty to Allah and fear him, and speak (always) the truth." This verse was interpreted by Al-Mahalli and As-Suyuti (2001:1808) and it is clearly explained that learning language and communication is important and we are suggested to always speak the truth.

Ehsan and Aziz (2014:1) states that code switching has been become a common phenomenon in the modern bilingual and multilingual world and it mostly occurs in media. The phenomenon of code switching can be found in novel, newspaper, magazine, radio, and other media. In this research the researcher takes some interview videos of Indonesian and Malaysian politicians as a tool to know and to explain code switching. The politicians are Sandiaga Uno, Ridwan Kamil, YAB Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Datuk Seri Hishamuddin Hussein. The politicians are chosen because they are able to speak English fluently. Sandiaga Uno, elected as deputy governor along with Anies Baswedan in 2017, is a graduate of George Washington University. Ridwan Kamil, elected Mayor of Bandung, studied architecture at the Bandung Institute Technology, and continued to study for a master of urban design at

the College of Environmental Design. Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi is a Malaysian politician serving as leader of the opposition and leader of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO). It can be said that the politicians chosen by the researcher are able to speak English fluently because Sandiaga Uno and Ridwan Kamil studied in America and both YAB Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Datuk Seri Hishamuddin Hussein live in Malaysia where English is as the second language.

The researcher is interested in analyzing code switching used by Indonesian and Malaysian politicians because there have been so many studies about the use of code switching but none of them studies the use of code switching as the language choice among politicians. Most researches study the utterances of celebrities and students. The researcher realized that it is also important to analyze the code switching used by the politicians since they are also often shown in media, they deliver speech whether it is done in order to be recognized or to persuade people. By analyzing the code switching used by them, people can figure out types of code switching and the functions of code switching used. Therefore, the researcher decided to analyze the use of code switching as the language choice among politicians.

The researcher more focuses on the English language used by Indonesian and Malaysian politicians because of the writer's knowledge in English and the researcher hopes by this research the reader will have more knowledge about linguistics, sociolinguistics, bilingualism, code switching and communication. The researcher is

really motivated to conduct a research entitled “The Use of Code Switching as the Language Choice among Politicians”.

B. Research Question

Based on the background above, the writer formulated the research questions as follows:

1. What types of code switching do politicians use?
2. What are the functions of code switching used by politicians?

C. Objective of the Research

The objectives of this study is aimed at finding out :

1. To analyze types of code switching used by politicians
2. To observe functions of code-switching used by politicians.

D. Significance of the Research

The researcher expects that this research would give some benefits for the readers of this research. The user of this research is not only for English and Literature students, linguist communities, but also other people, especially Indonesian and Malaysian politicians, bilingual and multilingual societies who usually use code switching in their daily communication. The result of this study is expected to give two kinds of benefits explained below.

1. Theoretical benefits.

The researcher hopes that the result of this study would be used as additional knowledge to improve the ability of speaking English and using code switching. It

will influence students to study linguistics, sociolinguistics, and especially about code switching. Besides, this research can be an additional knowledge that code switching can also be found in utterances of politicians and it is a communication strategy.

2. Practical benefit.

The result of this study can be used as a reference for students, and other researchers who are interested in analyzing and developing study about code switching. It can be used as communication strategy in order to succeed communication and also be an additional reference and information in using better utterances.

E. Scope of the Research

In this study, the researcher focuses on analyzing Indonesian-English and Malaysian-English code switching because the writer understands Bahasa Indonesia as his native language and Malaysian as the same as language family. The code switching can be found in utterances of Indonesian and Malaysian politicians are Indonesian and Malaysian language, English and their local language like Javanese and sundanese. The researcher uses a theory of Appel & Muysken in 2006. The code switching analyzed is Indonesian-English and Malaysian-English language found in 2 interview videos of Indonesian politicians on Satu Indonesia program and 2 interview videos on Bicara 4 Mata program. The researcher chose Satu Indonesia and Bicara 4 Mata program because they are similiar TV program which interviews politicians and both of them uploaded their videos on YouTube which can be watched by many people.

F. Research Method

The researcher applied descriptive qualitative method in analyzing the data. Kothari (2004:2-3) states that a research which allows the researcher to observe anything related to the object of the research without having a right to control it is called descriptive research. In this research, the researcher conducted the research only by analyzing the object being analyzed without manipulating it. Furthermore, this research can be categorized as a descriptive research.

On the other hand, this research is categorized as qualitative research since the data of this research is qualitative phenomenon which cannot be measured by exact measurement. In accordance to Jankowski and Jensen (2002:4), a qualitative research observes the production of meaning which is closely related to social and cultural phenomenon.

On the other hand, Moleong (2002: 2) states that a research which does not included any calculation or numeration because the datum are produced in the form of word is called a qualitative research. It is associated with developing and generating an understanding. In this research, the researcher collected the data by selecting words and phrases representing code switching used by politicians on interview videos. The data was collected and analyzed based on their contexts.

G. Research Objects

In this research, the writer used purposive sampling. The writer wanted to find out the types and functions of code switching used by Indonesian and Malaysian Politicians. The writer took data from interview recording of 2 Indonesian politicians and 2 Malaysian politicians. There are some categories; the speakers must be politicians in Indonesia and Malaysian, they have to be able to speak English and They have been interviewed on Satu Indonesia program or Bicara 4 Mata program. The researcher watched all interview videos on Satu Indonesia and Bicara 4 Mata Program and chose politicians who are able to speak English fluently. Then, the researcher chose Sandiaga Uno, Ridwan Kamil, YAB Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein because they met the requirements mentioned. The videos were taken on Satu Indonesia program and Bicara 4 Mata program because these programs are similar, they interview politicians and the interview videos can be downloaded on YouTube. The duration and the time of the interviews are different and the writer only focused on what the politicians say and the context.

H. Research Instrument

The researcher in this study watched the interview recording of the politicians and used note taking instrument. After watching the videos, the researcher made some notes to classify the important unit related to the problems and research object. The

researcher made some notes to classify the utterances of the 4 politicians when they were interviewed on Satu Indonesia program and Bicara 4 Mata program.

I. Data Collection Technique

The researcher in this study used some steps in collecting the data as follows:

1. Selecting the Indonesian politicians' interview.

The researcher selected the Indonesian and Malaysian politicians' interview videos carefully, there are so many interviews of the Indonesian and Malaysian politicians in different media. But, the researcher only chose the interview videos on Satu Indonesia program and Bicara 4 Mata program on YouTube. The researcher chose the programs because the Indonesian and Malaysian politicians in those videos often switch their languages when they are interviewed.

2. Watching the videos

The researcher watched the videos in order to understand and listen to the Indonesian and Malaysian politicians when they were interviewed by hosts of Satu Indonesia and Bicara 4 Mata.

3. Transcribing, selecting and classifying

While watching the video, the researcher wrote, selected, and classified the data. Finally, the writer arranged the data systematically in accordance with the research questions.

J. Technique of Data Analysis

To analyze the data, the following steps were taken: 1) identifying the sentences which are found in the utterances of the Indonesian and Malaysian politicians in Satu Indonesia program and Bicara 4 Mata program on YouTube, 2). Identifying and classifying the data based on the categorization of types of code switching 3). Identifying the functions of code switching in the utterances of the politicians.

K. Conclusion

In this study the researcher also found the functions of code switching. There are two functions of code switching in this study; as referential function and expressive function. According to Appel & Muysken (2006:118-120) states that there are six functions of code switching. They are referential function, directive function, expressive function, phatic function, metalinguistic function and poetic function.

• Example 1: Datum 1.1/Video: Satu Indonesia bersama Sandiaga Uno

“Apa kabar, Marisa. How are you?. This is Manov, my good friend”.

From datum 1.1, it can be seen that there were two languages used by the speaker, Sandiaga Uno when he wanted to greet the host of Satu Indonesia, Marisa and introduced his friend to her. He said *“Apa kabar, Marisa. How are you? This is Manov, my good friend”* to the host. The utterances can be categorized as intersentential switching since the speaker switched between two languages, Indonesian language to English which happened between sentences.

When the host of Satu Indonesia program, Marisa approached Sandiaga Uno, both of them looked excited and tried to start a small talk. Then, Sandiaga Uno asked how she was doing. He smiled, then pointed his friend in order to introduce him to her. First, he spoke Indonesian language, and he switched to English which means the speaker did code switching. The function of the code switching can be categorized as referential function since the speaker in the conversation tried to inform something. He introduced his friend to the host by saying “*This is Manov, my good friend*” and pointed his friend so his audiences could see who he meant. “*Manov*” and “*My good friend*” referred to the man he was pointing at.

- **Example 2: Datum 1.3/Video: Satu Indonesia bersama Sandiaga Uno**

“Setelah ada pergantian di 2013, waktu itu ada peremajaan daripada atlit-atlit muda, diperlukan katanya sosok yang energizer. Yang muda. Jadi saya terpanggil untuk mengurus PRSI.”

In the datum 1.2, it can be seen that Sandiaga Uno was asked by the host how he became a leader of PRSI (Indonesian Swimming Federation) and he explained it to the host. When he answered the question, he inserted the word “*energizer*” which is an English word that is different from the language he used before. The type of code switching of this datum can be categorized as intra-sentential switching. The speaker switched his language at the word level.

The function of this code switching can be categorized as a referential function. The word “*energizer*” in the conversation referred to a leader who is enthusiastic or active. Sandiaga Uno thought that PRSI (Indonesian Swimming Federation) needed a

leader who was energizer and he thought he was qualified. In the conversation, Sandiaga Uno looks so excited to answer the question given by the host. He also smiles and pauses for few seconds. Someone usually pauses in the conversation because he/she thinks or forgets what he/she wants to say next. In the video the speaker tried to find out a word to describe a future leader needed by the association. Then, he borrowed a word from other language in order to convey his mind more accurately.

Based on the findings and discussion, the types of code-switching in both data sources are inter-sentential and intra-sentential switching. Inter-sentential switching happens between the sentences and intra-sentential happens within the sentence. For the functions of switching, there are two functions found in politicians' utterances in the interview videos. They are referential function and expressive function. Referential function is when the speaker gives information and expressive function is when the speaker expresses his/her feeling by switching his/her language.

4.2 Suggestion

The researcher analyzed and discussed the types and functions of code switching used by politicians. The result shows that intra-sentential code switching is the most type found and referential function is the most function found in politician's utterances in interview videos.

The writer analyzed the function of code switching in politicians' utterances because I could not interview them directly. The next researchers can analyze code switching used by politicians by interviewing them directly.

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