The Indonesian-English Code-Switching Used by Najwa Shihab and Agnes Mo on Catatan Najwa YouTube Channel

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Abstract—Code-Switching is one of the phenomenon of language in society where the people use more than one language alternately in their utterances. It can occur spontaneously but some people may do it on purpose. This study was focused on analyzing the functions of Indonesian-English Code-Switching as found in Najwa Shihab and Agnes Mo conversation on Catatan Najwa Youtube Channel. The data source in this research was taken from one of the videos entitled “Najwa Shihab X Agnes Mo”. For the analysis, the researcher used the theory proposed by [Gumperz, 1982] to identify the functions of the code-switching. In collecting the data, this study used direct observation method and descriptive qualitative method was applied in analysing the data. The data that had been analysed were presented by using simple table and picture as well as descriptively. The result found that from the six functions of code-switching, only five were found, namely: Quotation (7 data) Interjection (23 data), Reiteration (27 data), Message Qualification (25 data), and Personalization vs. Objectification (3 data). The function that was not found is Addressee Specification.

Keywords—Code-Switching; Function; Catatan Najwa YouTube Channel.

1. Introduction

Recently bilingualism situation involves the use of English as a language that has been spreading across the globe. It requires people to show their English proficiency, especially in speaking. Some bilinguals use English and another language alternately in the conversations. This situation is called code-switching. According to [Wardaugh, 2006:101] when people speak, they usually choose a particular code but they may decide to switch from one code into another. According to [Gal, 988:247] code-switching is the conversational approach that can be functioned to establish the relationship and break the social group boundaries.

In Indonesia, code-switching is often found recently in the speeches of some public figures such as an artist, singer, actor, presenter, TV anchor, etc. who seem to do it in their conversation for specific purposes. Here the researchers found one of the videos on YouTube that show Agnes Mo, one of Indonesian talented singers, who has been developing her carrier on international music industry, who was interviewed by Najwa Shihab, one of the popular Indonesian TV anchors. Both speakers can be classified as influencers. Their video got a lot of “like” and comments from the viewers, watched so many times, and the channel has a lot of subscribers.

To analyze the functions of code-switching the researchers used the theory proposed by [Gumperz, 1982: Pg.75-80]. According to him, there are six functions of code-switching, namely: [1] to express direct quotation or reported speech (quotation), [2] (addressee specification) to direct the message to one of several possible addressees or to draw the people's attention that the other addressee is being invited to participate. [3] (interjection) to mark an interjection as the filler of the sentence that could represent the whole meaning of the sentence. [4] (reiteration) to emphasize and clarify what is being said by repeating in another code literally or in a modified form. [5] (message qualification) to qualify the message, introduce or continue the topic. [6] (personalization versus objectification) to emphasize a statement that represents personal opinion or information whether it related to the particular situation or has a power of accepted fact commonly.
2. Literature Review

A. Code-Switching

Code-switching is the situation where the people use some code alternately in one utterance of particular topic. According to [Gal, 1988:247] code-switching is the conversational approach which is used to build, ruin the group boundaries in order to modify interpersonal relations with their right and obligation. It means the use of code-switching can establish the relationship and break the group boundaries between the participant in order to make all of the participant can participate and give the contribution in the conversation.

B. The Function of Code-Switching

This research deals with the theory proposed by [Gumperz, 1982: Pg.75-80] to analyse the data. He states there are six function of code-switching, namely:

1. Quotations
   In particular situation, people use the code-switching to express direct quotation or reported speech. It uses when the people want to tell what is being said by someone to the others addressee.

2. Addressee Specification
   In this situation, the people do a switching to direct the message to one of several possible addressee. By the exchange of code, the people use the switching to draw the people attention that the other addressee is being invite to participate.

3. Interjection
   In this function of code-switching the people do a switching to mark an interjection or as the filler of the sentence. The interjection is not present in the full sentence but represent the whole meaning of the sentence.

4. Reiteration
   Reiteration is a kind of repetition where it use to emphasize and make the clarity of what is being said. It occurs when the message is repeated in another code literally or in a modified form in the next turn.

5. Message Qualification
   In this function, code-switching is used to qualify the message. It occurs when the people introduce the topic by using certain code the switch to another to another code to continue the topic.

6. Personalization versus Objectification
   In this situation, the switching have a function of making personalization vs objectification. Where this contrast is related to the distinction between talking about action and talking as action, the degree of speaker involvement in or the distance of the message whether a statement that represent personal opinion or information whether it related to particular situation or has a power of accepted fact commonly.

3. Methods

The data source in this research was taken from one of the videos on Catatan Najwa Youtube Channel entitled “Catatan Najwa x Agnes Mo”. This video was published on 7th of February 2020. It showed the conversation between Najwa Shihab and Agnes Mo that mostly contain code-switching in it. This video has
been watched about 2.968.956 times. Moreover, it also got a lot of likes, comments and subscribers about 6.78 billion. It makes this video famous and worthed to watch.

In collecting the data, this study used the direct observation method, in which the data were observed directly through the video. It also use syntactic and phonological parameter to recognize the sentence boundaries, therefore the data can be classified into each of the categories of the function of code-switching. To analyze the data, a descriptive qualitative method was applied. The data that has been classified were explained descriptively based on the theory of the function of code-switching. For the analysis, some data presented as the representation of each of the categories of the function of code-switching found from the data source. The data presented by using the combination of formal and informal method. In formal method, it was presented by using simple tables and pictures to represented the explanation of data meanwhile, in Informal method the data explained descriptively related to the theory in an informal method.

4. Result and Discussion

A. Result

There were 85 data found related to the theory of the function of code-switching. Each of the categorize has a different number of data. From six function of code-switching that has explained by [Gumperz, 1982] the researcher only found five functions, namely: quotation, interjection, reiteration, message qualification, personalization versus objectification. The function that was not found is the addressee specification. The numbers and the example of the data found were showed in the table as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>The Function of Code-Switching</th>
<th>The Number of Data Found</th>
<th>The Example Data Found</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Quotation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kalau keluarga untungnya progressive ya. For them, Mereka lebih focused on my character rather than the character I am marrying.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Interjection</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Tau gak, I don’t trust you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Reiteration</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Itu sebenarnya gak make sense ya. padahal aku sama mbak anggun itu baik banget.. masak kita, we are fine gitu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Message Qualification</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Jadi aku pengen salute to you juga. Maksudnya mempekerjakan bukan hanya male aja tapi female yang competence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based of the table above, the first finding is Quotation, with seven data were found. One of the utterances is “Kalau keluarga untungnya progressive ya. For them, Mereka lebih focused on my character rather than the character I am marrying”. This utterance has a function to state the direct quotation of someone. This utterance was said by Agnes Mo when Najwa asked about her love life. Here Agnes did code-switching when she wanted to tell what was being said by her family about how she chooses her spouse.

The second function of code-switching is an interjection, with 23 data found. The example of the utterance is “Tau gak, I don’t trust you”. The Indonesian phrase ‘Tau gak’ in English means ‘You know?’. It was inserted within an English sentence. It has a function to mark an interjection. By saying the phrase ‘Tau gak’, the speaker wants to tell something that the other addressee is wondering about. This utterance was said
by Najwa when she things Agnes was lying about her that she was beautiful. Therefore, she didn’t trust what is being said by Agnes.

The next finding is reiteration with 27 data found. One of the utterances is “Itu sebenarnya gak make sense ya. padahal aku sama mbak anggun itu baik banget.. masak kita, we are fine gitu”. This utterance can be categorized as reiteration. Here the speaker seems to repeat the Indonesian utterance ‘aku sama mbak anggun itu baik banget’. into English in the next utterance by saying ‘we are fine’. Both of the utterance has the same meaning. In fact, The Indonesian utterance ‘aku sama mbak anggun itu baik banget’ in English means ‘I and Anggun were really fine’.

The next function of code-switching that found is message qualification, with 25 data were found. One of the example is “Jadi aku pengen salute to you juga. Maksudnya mempekerjakan bukan hanya male aja tapi female yang competence”. The switching in this utterance has a function to qualify the previous message. This utterance was said by Agnes when she wants to appreciate the work situation in the studio. Here, the speaker introduced the topic by saying “Jadi aku pengen salute to you juga” that she appreciates Najwa about her employee. Then in the next utterance, there was a switching while she continues the topic about what does she appreciate about. She appreciates that Najwa has required the man and women equally.

The last finding is Personalization vs. Objectification, with the amount of 3 data found. One of the utterances is “Iya, ya I agree. Tapi maksudku gini lho seolah-olah itu jadi apa namanya wah Agnes versus siapa gitu. Yang lumayan rame kan Agnes versus Anggun.” This utterance is a part of the conversation between Najwa and Agnes. It can be categorized into personalization vs. objectification. Because when Najwa asked Agnes that she always compare with the other international actress, such as Aggun, she answered by stating her general opinion. But here, Najwa aimed to ask the personal opinion of Agnes Mo. Then she denies it by saying “I agree. Tapi maksudku gini lho seolah-olah.”While denying Agnes Mo’s answer, she spoke in English first then deny it in Indonesian.

Based on the findings, there were three functions of code-switching with similar number of data that were found, namely: Interjection (23 data), Reiteration (27 data), and Message Qulification (25 data). These three categories have been found to have the highest number of data occurrence in the conversation. With the functions the switching can emphasize the meanings of the utterances. In other words, the speaker wanted to strengthen what was being said or make the message clearer.

B. Discussion

1. Quotations

According to [Gumperz, 1982:75] people may switch to a different code when quoting directly or reporting a speech to the other addressee.

Data 1: Responnya kalau cewek “what you wanna get married?”, “Haa, belum punya anak ?” sebenarnya kalo cowok “ooh iya sih, hebat sih dia soalnya fokus sama karirnya. (09:08)

The switching to English above functions as a quotation. The speaker was quoting what was being said before. The switching was done by Agnes when she was telling about people’s perspective toward gender and carrier.

2. Interjection

[Gumperz, 1982:77] stated that people do code-switching in the form of interjection or as the sentence filler. It doesn’t appear in the whole sentence but it represents the whole meaning of the sentence.

Data 2: Jadi, I always try to change the mindset. (22:43)

This data can be categorized as an interjection. The Indonesian word ‘Jadi’ that switched in English utterance has a function as an interjection. In English, it means ‘So’. It was said by Agnes at the end of her utterance. It used to serve the conclusion of what was being said by her previously.

3. Reiteration

[Gumperz , 1982:78] stated that code-switching has a function as a reiteration. It is such a kind of repetition to emphasize and clarify what is being said. It occurs when the people utter the message by using a certain code then it is repeated in another code literally or in a modified form.
Data 3: Aku dulu saking gak bisa gerak ya, sampe ada guru les privat untuk aku SJK karena I can’t move (00:45)

The data above is categorized as reiteration. The switching into English in this utterance has a function to repeat the message in the Indonesian utterance. The Indonesian utterance ‘gak bisa gerak’ in English means ‘I can’t move’. Then at the end of the utterance, the speaker repeated it in English by saying ‘I can’t move’. Thus, both of these utterances in Indonesian and English have the same meaning.

4. Message Qualification

According to [Gumperz, 1982:79], people do code-switching to qualify the message. It occurs when the people introduce the topic by using a certain code, then the topic is continued in another code.

Data 4: Dan sadly, seringkali adalah justru perempuan sih yang merasa gak cukup PD.. apa namanya not smart enough, not beautiful enough... dan sering kali mallah kita yang anggap rendah diri kita sendiri. (20:53)

The switching above has a function to qualify the message. In the first utterance, the speaker spoke in Indonesian to introduce the topic by saying ‘…merasa gak cukup PD’. Here, the speaker wanted to tell that women often do not feel confident with themselves. Then in the next utterance, the speaker switched into English with an example of insecurity that could make most women feel inconsistent by saying ‘…apa namanya not smart enough, not beautiful enough…’. It seems, they tend to underestimate themselves.

5. Personalization Vs. Objectification

According to [Gumperz, 1982:80] code-switching has a function of marking personalization vs. objectification. The distinction is related to talk about an action or talk as an action, the speaker's involvement in, or the distance from a message, whether a statement reflects a personal opinion or information/knowledge, whether it refers to a specific instance or has the authority of generally known fact.

Data 5: Aku tu home body banget. Aku tu pernah record aku tu I was at home kaya for 5-6 days dan gak keluar... waktu itu karna I feel so tired dan kita udah dari show ke show, I don’t go anywhere. Like I was at home, watching TV, kerja, masak. Trus ada orang yang misalnya my best friend dating ke rumah tapi I didn’t feel like I had to go outside supaya aku recharge. (46:48)

The function of the code-switching above can be categorized into personalization vs. objectification. It shows that there was a contrast of symbolization within the speaker. The alternation between Indonesian and English reflected the distance. Here the speaker seemed to talk about her personal opinion or problem in Indonesian and talking about her action in English. This utterance was said by Agnes when Najwa asked her if she liked to go to party for which she told that she did not like to go out in Indonesian. Thus, she switched into English to explain what she was doing at home.

5. Conclusion

Code-Switching is a sociolinguistic phenomenon where people use more than one language alternately in the utterance. Switching involving English is influenced by the situation of spreading English around the world which demands people to deal with more than one language. It is the main factor for being a bilingual nowadays.

This research has been analyzing the functions of Indonesian-English code-switching used by Najwa Shihab and Agnes Mo in the conversation on Catatan Najwa Youtube Channel. In accomplishing the research, the researcher used the theory proposed by [Gumperz, 1982: Pg. 75-80] to analyze the data. Based on the theory, from six functions of code-switching, the researcher only found five functions, namely: Quotation, Interjection, Reiteration, Message Qualification, and personalization vs. objectification. One function from the theory that could be seen to cover all of the code-switching cases here was the addressee specification. It is because in this conversation, the only addressee, Agnes Mo, is an native Indonesian speaker but known to be fluent in English for her international career. Thus, to switch to English in the conversation in the talk show on the TV station was because of this specific reason of the addressee’s bilingual skills in English and Indonesian.
References


