The Application of Turn-Taking Strategies on *THE BOYZ* Podcast Highlight Episode: Conversation Analysis Reflection

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Abstract
A conversation is not all about a social activity that involves two people or more who chatter on anything. It has been regulated in the basic principles of spoken language in linguistics. The approach to analyzing the rules of interactive spoken language is mainly attached to the scope of conversation analysis which is commonly known as turn-taking. This research presents the appliance of turn-taking strategies and the patterns of turn-in-talk on THE BOYZ podcast conducted by bilingual speakers, which refers to the theory from Sacks et al. (1974). Furthermore, this study aims to identify the implication of language alternation usage by bilingual speakers in the conversation using the bilingual communication theory proposed by Mahecha and Auer (1986). The data are collectively derived from the utterances of the interview session transcribed on the DIVE Studios Podcasts' YouTube channel. The results revealed the parties on the podcast are more likely to use adjacency pairs among the types of turn-taking strategies and self-selection distribution of turn-allocation in the entire conversation. A genuine intent by bilingual speakers to shift the language within the discussion is to create an apparent approval or agreement and validation.
Keywords: *Conversation Analysis, Language Alternation, Podcast, Turn-Taking Patterns, Turn-Taking Strategies.*

Introduction

The conversation is a tool to exchange information between one another. In a social context, an exchange of "A" initiates to start of a conversation. "B" responds to it and back to "A" for a follow-up response formed of a question or statement. In other words, a conversation could be defined as a way to transfer information through spoken language. As social beings, human has the right to construct a conversation that cannot be separated in daily life interaction   (Abdullah, 2016). The approach to analyzing spoken interactions' principles is in the scope of conversation analysis and is commonly known as turn-taking.

According to Ford (2013), the basic system of turn-taking on how each speaker manages the sequence of talk in an orderly manner is mainly associated with managing the timing of speaking. The general principle of turn-taking is illustrated as "A" play as the speaker who usually puts in motion to begin a conversation, "B" as the interlocutor waiting for the turn to talk or give the response, and continually repeat the same pattern.

A Conversation analysis approach from discourse analysis was developed by a small group of researchers named Harvey Sacks, Emanuel A. Schegloff, and Gail Jefferson in the early 1960s (Lerner, 2004). The approach mainly discusses natural conversations derived from spontaneous talk between two people to discover linguistic characteristics in the primary form of spoken language. Therefore, the study of discourse analysis relies on language and the social context.

According to Fahlenafitri (2020), conversation structure consists of an interesting topic as the connecter, the speaker, and the listener develop effective interaction in a specific order. In doing so, both speaker and listener must acknowledge the topic that will be discussed to strike a pleasant conversation. However, either the speaker or the listener should be aware of the exchange rules to make it flow smoothly without any overlapping issues. But Hasan et al. (2020) reveal that both speaker and listener do not always have to follow the rules over escalating a well-ordered conversation. Since not all discussion is formed correctly, there could be some features of language within the scope of the conversation to analyze certain matters that occur in every interaction between two or more people.

Along with the influence of conversation, anyone with any language may voice their intent towards a particular talking point. This kind of phenomenon can be easily found on Television and in cyberspace. It is associated with popular mass media to influence the target people through the use of language. As the technology

grew more extensive with many digital innovatory tools such as online platforms, which invoke powerful impact, people began to consume popular online media as they engaged in the study of speaking. Any kind of conversation is available on popular social media such as YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, etc.

Several previous studies attempt to examine similar primary research within turn-taking strategies. Jansem & Boonsue (2015) prove that face-to-face interaction is orderly organized with the generic manners of turn-taking and uses both verbal and non-verbal language as an additional action to make significant meaning. They also stated online chat discussions turned out disorderly structured for not emphasizing non-verbal language. Both are highly interrupted by other speakers, which causes the overlap of talking.

In contrast, Abdullah (2016) states that the function of identifying the turn-taking strategies in a movie is to organize the turn of talk so that both the speaker and the hearer could lessen incoherent conversation. He also adds the intention of using self-selection during the conversation value to support the argument uttered by the previous interlocutor. Abdullah says that it is essential for us aa s social beings to wait and think about what the next speaker wants to say without cutting off the utterances.

Hong Phuong & Tho (2020) found the top five turn-taking strategies used mainly by the interviewer from a New Zealand radio interview program. Their study focuses on the interviewer's speech who dominates the conversation to acquire the goal of the interview. There are five strategies adopted: giving a specific signal for the interviewee to talk, deciding the turn of talk, asking some related questions, addressing self-selection, and applying prosodic features to support the mode of speaking in language classroom use.

This study will use another integration of speaking coordination like putting together the turn-taking strategies with its patterns within the insight of bilingual speakers. For that reason, the first research gap can be discovered in the subject of this study, the bilingual speakers who spoke English constantly. Another research gap is from the main issue, which aims to evaluate the types of strategies and the patterns used frequently by the speakers in the podcast. Hence, this study refers to the interpretation of talk on one of the popular platforms, YouTube channels, in the form of audiovisual, known as podcast video. Online media indeed bring a practical large-scale implication to many people worldwide at ease. Therefore, the researcher uses a phenomenal video podcast from DIVE Studios Podcasts that consists of four bilingual speakers to be the object of this study.

In conducting profound research regarding the background of the study,

several research objectives deal with the conversation analysis approach to emphasize the aim of this research. The researcher is eager to know what turn-takings are often used during the interview by the host and all the guests in the podcast and figure out the appliance of patterns distribution in turn-taking strategies. This study also distinguishes how all bilingual speakers maintain their turn-taking towards each other during the interview. Hence, this analysis connects the coordination of language switching with the bilingual communication theory.

Method

This study intends to expose what kind of turn-taking strategies all speakers on the podcast used. Along with its patterns which are considered one of the main discussions of the study and using the theory from Sacks et al. (1974) Therefore, this study will adopt a descriptive qualitative method as the research design to identify the participants' situation through their perspective and not the researcher.

Complying with the bilinguals' perception in formulating conversation, the central research questions for this study are correlated with the concept of bilingualism in dealing with spoken language proposed by Mahecha and Auer (1986). The interaction engaged with some turn-taking manners that bilinguals would do if they were contriving conversation. It seemed disrespectful not to mention the indispensable patterns of turn-taking that all speakers adapted. The analysis described the meaning of speakers' utterances during the interview in questions and declarative sentences.

Certain spoken features delivered by all speakers engaged in using language in daily utterances could be transcribed throughout the official YouTube channel of DIVE Studios Highlights. The analysis maintains the appliance of turn-taking manner in conversation, how all speakers involved in expressing their conversation behavior.

There are four subjects in total as the subject of this study who can speak English and Korean fluently. The role of the podcast distinguishes by; Eric Nam as the podcaster has the power to regulate the turn of speech, while Jacob, Kevin, and Eric from THE BOYZ are in the role of being the guests of the DIVE Studios Podcasts on Eric Nam's section named K-Pop Daebak Episode 80. All of them are Korean celebrities, but the three of them, except for Eric THE BOYZ, are foreign and came from overseas. In this case, the four of them use English as the primary language during the entire interview even though they utter some Korean words to understand the significant terms of words or phrases that are easier to comprehend.

The setting of this study is placed where the podcast was recorded on the official studio of DIVE Studios Podcasts in South Korea. The entire interview is conducted face-to-face during the pandemic and complies with the health protocol

requirements. The highlight version of the discussion on the podcast contains several topics moderated by the podcaster. All utterances from the podcaster and the three guests are in English with some bit of Korean words that might answer the related questions of this study.

The data was taken from the official video and the script to convey the utterances in the written form of words, phrases, or sentences. The transcripted text is done using the YouTube features, and the researcher cross-checked the script to make it readable and easy to analyze the issue related to the research question.

Results

This section presented the final result of the analysis by providing all the data breakdown in findings and followed with the discussion to be confirmed with the existing theories and previous studies.

After analyzing the data based on Sacks et al. (1974) theory, there are numerous turn-taking strategies and patterns used in the dialogue of the podcast, which can be classified into four types.

The table below shows how frequently the participants use turn-taking strategies in a conversation. There are four strategies of turn-taking with different numbers of frequencies.

Table 1. Types of Turn-Taking Strategies

No.	Turn-Taking Strategies	Frequency
1.	Address Term	3
2.	Adjacency Pair	18
3.	Overlap	8
4.	Repair Techniques	8
	TOTAL	37

Address Term

The most effective technique, whereby the current speaker selects the next speaker, is 'addressing' someone either by their name or gaze direction (Sacks et al., 1974). After analyzing the address term used by all participants in the podcast based on the rules of a speech changing system, the researcher found only three turns which considered as the address term of turn-taking strategies in data (Scene 2, lines 27-28), (Scene 2, line 62), and (Scene 2, line 72). All of those turns are addressing the selected next speaker by their names.

Eric Nam: Oh my gosh . . . We spoke about Eric. We spoke about Kevin. **Now let's talk about Jacob**.

Kevin TBZ: **Jacob**.

<div align="right">(Scene 2, line 27 & 28)</div>

The conversation above shows that selecting a potential next speaker could be done by addressing their name directly to engage in the conversation. Eric Nam, as the podcaster, has the right to select one of the participants to be involved in the conversation. He points out Jacob as one of the participants to answer the question, followed by Kevin TBZ (THE BOYZ) calling out for his name Jacob to encourage him to take the floor. Therefore, other speakers could not have the chance to steal the turns and provoke an overlap.

Adjacency Pair

The basic structure of having a conversation is to adjust the adjacency pairs. This system initiates the give and responds action in exchanging questions and answers to create a prior turn (Schegloff, 2007). The researcher found 18 adjacency pairs in total, 9 of data are considered as 'Question-Answer' pairs as shown in the data Scene 2 (line 16 & 17), (line 29 & 30), (line 42 & 43), (line 44 & 45), (line 55 & 56), (line 59 & 60), (line 62 & 63), (line 67 & 69), and (line 72 & 73). Adjacency pair for 'Statement-Disagreement' in data (Scene 2, line 9 & 10); 'Assessment-Disagreement' in data (Scene 2, line 11 & 12); 'Announcement-Acknowledgement' in data (Scene 2, line 22 & 23, and 36 & 37); 'Accusation-Denial' in data (Scene 2, line 25 & 26); 'Statement-Agreement' in data (Scene 2, line 30-32); 'Announcement-Disagreement' in data (Scene 2, line 40 & 41); 'Assessment-Acknowledgement' in data (Scene 2, line 49 & 50); 'Assessment-Justification' in data (Scene 2, line 70 & 71). A responsive action following the last part of a pair speech can be suspected of pragmatic efficacy in talk sequence talk (Levinson & Torreira, 2015). From the primary data, it can be concluded that the exchange system refers to various pairs of a dialogue.

All adjacency pairs included in the entire conversation of the podcast are used to take the turn of the talk. However, not all adjacency pairs are immediately adjacent to each other. In some cases, a question is answered with another question to persuade a potential speaker to prompt a new talking problem (Liddicoat, 2007). There is also one pair dialogue of reverse query from two speakers from the data. In this case, the first speaker questioned something from the previous speaker as a direct response. Despite that, he also answered his query as in the data (scene 2, line 47), Kevin: (*Do you? Yeah, I do too*.). He acknowledges this by giving a self-response and letting others be well informed. As prescribed in line 48, Eric Nam: (*You do?*) returned the same question to ascertain Kevin's statement.

Overlap

In analyzing overlapping talk, there are two points to be aware of; (1) words that immediately interrupted by an uninvited speaker; and another is (2) the gaps in the conversation during occasions of speaker transfer (Wooffitt, 2005). Eight pairs of dialogues are classified as overlapping talk. These minor interruptions are accustomed to changing the discussion direction (by assessment, rejection, or question) and bringing a new topic (statement, acknowledgment, or announcement). As specified in the data, there are two overlapping talks in data (Scene 2, line 22 & 23) classified as an assessment in changing the discussion and data (Scene 2, line 44 & 45) for shifting the talk subject matter as a direct response. The rest of the six overlapping talks are categorized as producing a new topic by giving a statement (Scene 2; lines 11, 18, & 35), conveying an acknowledgment (Scene 2, line 13), and delivering an announcement (Scene 2; line 6 & 71).

Repair Techniques

Sacks et al. (1974) mentioned that the repair technique appertains with the mechanism of turn-taking errors. Nevertheless, the unintentional errors while uttering something are the condition that each speaker could participate in repairing any troubles in the conversation.

The analysis discovered eight repair techniques used by the speakers to improve the turn-transfer failure. In the data (Scene 2; lines 4, 19, & 64), the speakers make minor corrections by changing the word or phrase into a proper and specific affirmation by themselves. This is the intention of self-initiated self-repair by the same speaker to correct the error in the talk. On other occasions, when the current speaker could not maintain to deliver a particular word or phrase as in the data (Scene 2; lines 45 & 70), other speakers could initiate take the turn of talk to repair the troubles. The principle that other speakers start to fix what others mistakenly said is relevant to a simple correction of the wrong utterance. The data (Scene; lines 7, 10, & 12) shows that the potential speaker could repair others' phrasing right away. This sequence of talk has a high possibility for the other speakers to interrupt the ongoing exchange of the current speaker.

Relating to the data analysis, providing findings is suspected as a clarification to close the possibility of causing the overlap. Psathas (2018) declares that additional insertions are acknowledged to repair the ongoing talk and proceed with the rest of the conversation.

The Patterns of Turn-in-Talk

As Sacks et al. (1974) stated in their conceptualization regarding the distribution of turn-transfer, several patterns of turn of talk are discovered in the conversation. As shown in the table below, the researcher uncovered 25 turn-taking

patterns used by the participants in the podcast.

Table 2. Types of Turn-Taking Patterns

No.	Turn-Taking Patterns	Frequency
1.	Self-selection	21
2.	The current speaker selects the next speaker	9
3.	Current speaker continues	13
	TOTAL	43

The operation of turn-allocation in the conversation can be discovered through essential 'obvious cases'; 1) the current speaker selects the potential speaker by its addressee to speak next, 2) another interlocutor may take the floor to talk, or 3) the current speaker do the self-selection by continuing the speech (Sacks et al., 1974) as specified in the data (Scene 2; lines 7, 9, 11, 13, 18, 20, 24, 25, 37, 41, 46, 47, 50, 51, 52, 55, 57, 59, 67, 70, and 78) the speaker initiates to take the floor to talk by delivering a relevant or ambiguous response to the previous topic. This basic technique, often known as the speaker, obviously 'starting first' the chance to control the flow of the talk. A recognizable response from a particular speaker may be present concerning specific knowledge of a new topic (Ford, 2013). Based on the data research, most self-selection systems are considered overlapping talk. The transition from the previous talk into a new utterance within a brief of seconds caused the overlap in conversation.

A minor distribution of patterns in turn-taking is where the current speaker intentionally generates some actions to keep the conversation by selecting the next speaker. The data are shown in Scene 2 (lines 4, 8, 9, 16, 27, 28, 44, 62, and 72) reveal the prior speaker's position, who can thoroughly select other participants to engage in the conversation. In this research, the podcast host often addressed the next speaker, Eric Nam: *Oh man. But **Kevin**, you're pretty expressive?* (Scene 2, line 72). As Wilson et al. (1984) stated, the characteristic of the signaling approach to turn-taking is presumably maintained by the rapid exchange of conventional vocal or small gestural signals.

In the state where the current speaker or the host of an interview has not selected the next speaker yet, they may continue the talk. Based on the analysis from the conversation in the podcast, the researcher found 13 utterances identified as

'turn-in-a-series' according to what Sacks et al. (1974) have defined. They noted the turns could be potentially made into a sequence order of talk by reflecting the last speech as an indication for the speakers to continue the talk. In the data Scene 2 (line 12, 15, 19, 32, 34, 36, 40, 54, 64, 66, 71, 75, and 76) are justified the terms of continuation self-speech. This pattern distribution allows speakers to talk independently to carry out a complete knowledge topic. From the data analysis, the podcast host encourages the participants to share the whole story that others should know by letting them go on with the talk.

Language Alternation Style in Turn-Taking Strategies

Communication between bilingual people is often considered a complex linguistic activity that derives from the sense of interactional scrutiny within the social landscape (Mahecha & Auer, 1986). It is naturally arranged by a specific pattern of language use and its characteristic of the language system. Bilinguals could casually use their primary language while having an interaction to determine the universality of language and culture. They can also possibly use language alternation. Mahecha and Auer (1986) indicated the term as the 'code-switching' system that bilingual speakers often use for communication with other bilinguals or monolinguals.

Based on the speakers' background in the podcast, they are typically bilingual. They are fluent in English and Korean, so switching the language in the middle of a conversation is wise. The value of language is none other than expressing self-perspective and introducing the speaker's identity (Rabiah, 2018). This study discovered two turn-taking strategies, where the speaker uses language alternation.

Kevin TBZ: Much more expressive.

Jacob TBZ: *Definitely*. Yes.

Kevin TBZ: Everybody [***injeongs*** (agrees) it].

(Scene 2, lines 32-34)

There is no repair technique in alternating language uttered by bilingual speakers in the podcast. As seen in the dialogue sample above, one bilingual speaker named Kevin implicitly declaims that the word 'injeongs' in Korea equals 'agree' or 'admit' in English. He refers to Korean words to give explicit approval in his second language.

Kevin TBZ: Was it like . . . She was in the audience and you were telling the fans, //"*I love you*."//

Eric Nam: //"***Saranghae yeo-reo-bun***."// (I love you everybody.)

Eric TBZ: Right right right. She was one of them, so . . .

(Scene 2, lines 67-69)

The same technique appliance for the second dialogue sample, whereas the podcast host, Eric Nam, shouted out "saranghae yeo-reo-bun," which has the exact meaning of "I love you all" in English. He refers to this switching words from English to Korean compared to the previous utterance by the last speaker before him. This style of language alternation is mainly claimed to indicate validation meaning in a different language. The implication of this conversational style is a way to signal the shared background and context of the utterance (Tannen, 2005). In addition to the data analysis, the statement of some Korean words in the middle of the dialogue confirmed an absolute intention to expose their cultural identity background.

Conclusion

Concisely, the study of turn-taking strategies and the patterns are approximately essential to recognizing basic elements of how turns work in the field of spoken language. This research reveals several central points of the strategies and pattern distribution in taking the turn of talk based on Sacks et al. (1974) theory.

The result shows the amount of each type of turn-taking strategy and the patterns applied in this study. For the turn-taking strategies, all speakers have often used adjacency pairs among the four types of taking turns to balance the conversation's order. Besides, the identification of overlap and repair technique appliances is equally the same. Both the host and the guests casually interrupt each other to give a sudden response. It shows how the interview session in the podcast is practically full of spontaneous utterances. However, the address term is mainly used by the host to direct the attention of the next speaker to take turns. It is also relevant to the final result of the patterns of turn-allocation. The current speaker selecting the next speaker is a little distribution pattern used by all speakers. It aims to avoid the overlap occurring in the middle of the talk and invite all speakers to speak their arguments. In this podcast, the researcher spotted a significant speaking style of each speaker. They tend to engage in the conversation by themselves without the host's direction. For that reason, the self-selection pattern is reported as the highest number of turn-allocation distribution. At the same time, the current speaker continues system has an average number that is often used to give specific acknowledgment. Further, this study also points out the parties' definite intention of approval and validation as bilingual speakers for adjusting language alternation between English and Korean words.

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