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The Reason of performing Code-switching and Code-mixing in Indonesian – English by the Elite People in Makassar

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Abstract

This article aimed at finding out reasons of code switching by the elite people. The data were obtained through questionnaire. The population was the elite people in Makassar who were divided into five groups namely doctors, government officials, lawyers, lecturers, and politicians living in Makassar. There were 100 conversation produced by 25 respondents. Those 25 respondents were asked to complete a questionnaire about their reason in codeswitching. The analysis of data in this research was carried out through the following the procedures: (1) The data were classified based on the criteria of reason (2) The discourse of code switching reasons was tabulated (3) The reasons of code switching were described. The result show that in term of the reasons of code switching, it is found three reasons; practicality of English, good ability of English, and lack of Indonesian expressions

Keywords: Function and Reason, Code Switching, Code Mixing

Introduction

The way of speaking which combines two languagein the same sentence or discourse is called code switching. This is not a strange thing for Indonesian people now, especially in big cities occupied by many elite people such as, doctors, lecturers, business executive, lawyers. Such a phenomenon is getting popular. Therefore, it becomes an interasting object of study for sociolinguists, particularly the study Indonesian – English code switching. The following examples of code switching are taken from Romaine in Yassi (2003:119):

1. Kio ke six, SEVEN HOURS te school de fic SPEND karde ne, THEY ARE SPEAKING ENGLISH ALL THE TIME. (Panjabi/English bilingual in

Britain). "Because they seven spend six or seven a day at school they are speaking English all the time"

2. WILL YOU rubim OFF? Old man will come. (Tokspin / bilingual chiild in Papua New Guinea) "Will you rub (that off blackboard). The man will come".

3. Ano etta tulla tanne etta I'M VERY SICK (Finish / English bilingual recorded by poplack, Wheeler, Westwood 1987). "Tell them to come here that I'm ver sick."

4. Kodomatachi LIKED IT (Japanese / English bilingual, recorded by Nishimura 1986). "The children like it".

5. HAVE aqua PLEASE. (Spains / English bilingual child, recorded by Kessier,1984). "Have water, plaese ! ".

6. Won o ARREST A SINGLE PERSON (Yoruba / English bilingual, recorded by Auda,1986). "They did not arrest a single person".

7. THIS MORNING I hantar MY BABY tu dekat BABY SITTER tu lah (Malay / English bilingual, recorded by Ozog, 1987). "This morning I took my baby to the babysitter".

The examples above show that the utterances contain more than one language and they are combined in different ways. Such thing probably occur in most bilingual people in communities.

The write also finds such phenomena in conversation among the elite people when they communicate to one other. They habitually use more than one language, particularly Indonesian and English. They employ code switching to, among others, emphasize and make the message simple which they intend to convey. The next examples are taken from one of their conversations that the writer observed.

A: sudah ada progres yang dicapai ?

B: SO FAR NOT YET

The next conversational:

A: apa yang seharusnya membangunkan kita dalam melihat kenyataan-kenyataan ini?

B: kita tidak boleh berputus asa. Hidup ini lebih luas dari sistem pemerintahan, keadaan kita sendiri. WE CAN MEET, membuka dunia ini dengan menemui harapan-harapan yang lain.

By seeing the example above, the writer intends to discuss the problems concerning code switch and concentrates on conversational code switching among the elite people.

The researh problem statements of this research are formulated as follows: What are the reasons of code switching by the elite people? This study aimed at to find out reasons of code switching by the elite people.

This study is expected to be valuable information for the Indonesian people, particularly for the sociolinguists who have concern with the code switching phenomenon. Through this study, people will get a description of reasons of code

switching by the elite people especially those who switch their code from Indonesian to English. This study will be direct contribution and important information to the next researchers concerning code switching.

This article is limited to discribe the reasons of code switching by the elite people especially those who switch their code from Indonesian to English.. The language context of the research object is informal language, which is used in informal situation,among the elite people in their conversation.

Gumperz in Yassi (2003:47) points out "linguists view code switching as a discouse mode or a communicative option which is available to a bilingual member of a speech community on much the same basis as switching between styles or dialects is an option for monolingual speakers. Switching in both cases serves an expressive function and has pragmatic meaning".

Gumperz (1988:59) also defines conversational code switching as "the juxtaposition within the same speech exchange of passages of speech of belonging to two different grammatical system or subsystems". He states that alternation takes the form of two subsequent sentences, when a speaker uses a second language either to reiterate his message or to reply to someone else's statement. Further, Gumperz classifies the conversational function of code switching into six. In term of the fuction of showing quotation or reported speech is frequently found. He gives some examples in Hindi/English code switching as follows:

I WENT TO AGRA, to maine apne bhako bola ki (then I said to my brother that), if you come to Delhi you must buy some lunch.

Concerning the terms of addressee specification, Gumperz the examples of code switching in Hindi/English:

A group of Hindu speaking graduate students are discussing the subject of Hindi/English code switching:

A: Sometimes you get excited and then you speak in Hindi, then again you go on to english

B: No nonsense, it depends on your command of English

B: (Shortly thereafter turning to a third participant, who has just returned from the answering doobell) kan hai ba (who is it)?

The above example shows that the switch serve to direct the message to one of several possible addresees. Gumperz also finds that code switching functions to mark interjection or sentences filler as in the Spanish/English below:

- Spanish/English:
  Chicano professionals saying goodbye, and after having been introduced by a third participant, talking briefly:

A. Well, I am glad, I met you.

B. Andale fues (OK. Swell). AND DO COME AGAIN. Mm?

In relation to the function reiteration, Gumperz (1982:78) describes that

repitition is used to clarify what is said or to emphasize a message, as in the following examples:

- Hindi/English:

  Farther in India calling his son, who was learning to swim in a swimming pool: Baju-me jao beta, andar mat (go to the side son, not inside) KEEP TO THE SIDE

- Spanish/English:

  Purto Rican mother in New York calling to her children who are playing in the street: Vena ca (come here). Ven aca (come here). COME HERE, YOU.

In the sphere of message qualification, code switching is used to qualify construction such as sentence and verb complements and predicates following a copula. The examples of the function are in the following:

- English/Spanish:

  THE OLDEST ONE, la grande la de once anos (the big one is eleven years old)

- Hindu/English, college student conversation:

  A: Bina vet kiye ap a gae (without waiting you came) ?

  B: Nahi (No), I CAME TO THE BUS STOP nau bis p is p r (about nine twenty – five).

Personalization or objectification is the last, which is relatively large group of intances function, and is rather more difficult to specify in purely descriptive terms. The code contrast in this case connects with such things as: the distinction between talk about action, the degree of speaker involvement in, or distance from, a message, whether a statement reflects personal opinion or knowledge, and whether it refers to specific instances or has the authority of generally known fact.

The other extract from Spanish/English code switching is the argument from. Gumperz in Yassi (2003:53) that the code contrast symbolizes varying degree of speaker involvement in the message. Spanish statements are personalized, while English reflects more distance. As can be seen, speaker A seems to alternate between talking about her problem in English and acting out her problem in Spanish:

A: .... I'd smoke the rest of the pack myself in the other two weeks

B: That's all you smoke

A: That't all I smoked

B: And how about now?

A: Estos ...... Me los halle ..... estos pall malls me los hallaron.
(Found these Pall Malls ..... These were found for me) NO, I MEAN THA'S ALL THE CIGARETTES ..... THAT ARE ALL THEY'RE THE ONES I BUY.
A: THEY TELL ME HOW DID YOU QUIT? MARY? I DON'T QUIT QUIT ..... I JUST STOPPED. I MEAN IT WASN'T AN EFFORT THAT I MADE que voy a dejar a furnar por que me hace dano o (that I'am going

to stop smoking becauseit's harmful to me or). THIS OR THAT UH UH
IT JUST THAT I USED TO PULL BUTTS OUT OF THE WASTE
PAPER BASKET YEAH. I USED TO GO LOOK IN THE ...... se me
acaban los cigarros en la noche (my cigarette would run out on me at
night). I'D GET DESPERATE yahr voy al bassarero a buscar, a sacar (and
there I go to the waste basket to look for some, to get some, YOU KNOW.

Method

This research is a part of a big research in which applies qualitative method so that the writer prepared a depiction of indonesia – English code switching phenomenon in other to expose all patterns concerning the use of grammatical cstegories, the switched segments where they took place, the switch points where they occured, the type of code switching employed, and the conversational function and reasons for code switching.

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The population this research is the groups of elite people in Makassar, consisting of doctors, lecturers, politicians, governmental officials, and lawyers. There are some people from each group, and the writer takes five people from each as the sample of this research. So, the total number of sample is twenty five people. This means that this research uses purposive sampling technique.

The data collection used in finding the reasons is done through questionnaire. The questionnaires were distributed to be fulfilled by the groups of elite people in Makassar, consisting of doctors, lecturers, politicians, governmental officials, and lawyers. The analysis of data in this research was carried out through the following the procedures: (1) The data were classified based on the criteria of reason (2) The discourse of code switching reasons was tabulated (3) The reasons of code switching were described

Results

Based on the questionnaires, there are several reasons for code switching mentioned by the respondents. The reasons are the practicality of English, the good ability of English, and lack of Indonesian expressions.

1. **The practicality of English**

When the respondents speak to their colleagues as a community, they prefer

expressing their concepts in English because it is shorter and therefore are easily understood. Besides, if they say them in Indonesian, they would sound awkward. Dealing with this, the use of English for the words that have no single correspondence in the matrix language is more practical than explaining them in long words (Weinrich in Tjalla, 2003:59). Based on the data, 31.66% of the respondents consider this their reason for code switching.

1. A: CESAREAN OPERATION harus diambil agar nyawa ibu dan
anaknya bisa SAFE
B: Besok saya akan meng-HANDLE POST-OPERATION-nya
(No.001/SP 1-2)

   The speaker B does not say 'menangani setelah operasinya', because these are long words. Instead, speaker B just says 'handle post-operation' since these words are more practical.

2. A: Ada yang mengusulkan agar Indonesia memiliki CYBER LAW
B: Betul Pak, karena TRADE CONTRACT VIA INTERNET sudah
merambah ... (No.054/SP 4-3)

   In the above conversation, speaker A prefers the words 'cyber law' to 'hukum untuk dunia maya' because it would sound awkward and it is quite longer.

3. A: RESIDENT sekarang banyak berbahasa Inggris dengan lancar, dok.
B: SO, WE HAVE TO LEARN IT SERIOUSLY ... (No.014/SP 4-5)

   In the example number 56, the speaker A says 'Resident' not 'dokter-dokter muda yang ditempatkan di rumah sakit selama beberapa waktu untuk menjaalani pendidikan'. These are long words, and the speaker A prefers saying 'resident' because it is more practical.

2. The Good Ability of English

Mostly the respondents have good English so that they frequently communicate their messages by switching them into English. So, mixing their native language (Indonesian) with English is a common thing among them. Moreover, it can encourage them to practice their English ability eventhough they use more than one language simultaneously, through either a word or a clause or a sentence. According the data, the frequency use of this reason, good ability of English, is 35%. The examples are as follows:

4. A: Maaf, saya terlambat. MANY CONSULTATIONS IN WAHIDIN
B: Oh ya, (No.009/SP 5-3)

The speaker A shows his ability to speak English. Although he can say 'banyak konsultasi di (rumah sakit) Wahidin' he prefers switching the message into English because he wants to practice his good ability of English.

5. A: Apakah perlehatan kedua partai besar ....
B: IT IS POSSIBLE, BUT pilpres berikutnya ...
IT IS A PROCESS ... (No.100/SP 4-5)

   In conversation no 58 above, speaker B shows his English ability. He talks about a topic of politics by switching his Indonesian into English.

6. A: Penyampaiannya secara komunikatif. IF YOU WANNA EXLPAIN

SOMETHING AFTER THAT THEY HAVE TO LEARN ABOUT
PAST TENSE FOR INSTANCE.

B: Kalau GRAMMAR, mahasiswa tidak RESPOND kan ... (No.078/SP
3-4).

The speaker A speaks English very well. The switch even indicates a long sentence. The speaker can do this because he ha s a good ablity of English.

3. Lack of Indonesian Expressions

An educated Indonesian sometimes finds difficulty with expressing himself/herself in Indonesian, especially expressing special thing. This might be because he/she forgets the Indonesian words he/she wants to say. That is why, in a conversation, they usually respond in English, not in Indonesian. Based on the data, the use frequency of this reasons is 3.3%.

7. A: Ada CALLING dari RESIDENT?

B: Dia minta pertimbangan ... (No.008/SP 3-4)

Speaker A feels convenient to use the word 'resident'. He does not want to use the long words to express the meaning. The word 'resident' means a young doctor who lives in hospital for education for a long time. This is not practical so that the speaker switches it into English.

The distribution of the data covering reasons for code switching is shown in the following table 6.

Table 6 Reasons for Code Switching of The Elite People

No	Reasons for Code Switching	The Number of Respondents					total	%
		DO	GO	LA	LE	PO		
1	The practicality of English	4 (6.66%)	4 (6.66%)	3 (5%)	5 (8.33%)	3 (5%)	19	31.66
2	The good ability of English	4 (6.66%)	4 (6.66%)	4 (6.66%)	5 (8.33%)	4 (6.66)	21	35
3	Lack of Indonesian expressions	2 (3.33%)	-	-	-	-	2	3.33
4	Habit	4 (6.66%)	3 (5%)	3 (5%)	5 (8.33%)	3 (5%)	18	30
	TOTAL	**14**	**11**	**10**	**15**	**10**	**60**	**100**

The following Chart 4 shows the percentage distribution of reasons applied by

the respondents in code switching

Chart 3 The reasons for Code Switching by DO GO LA LE PO
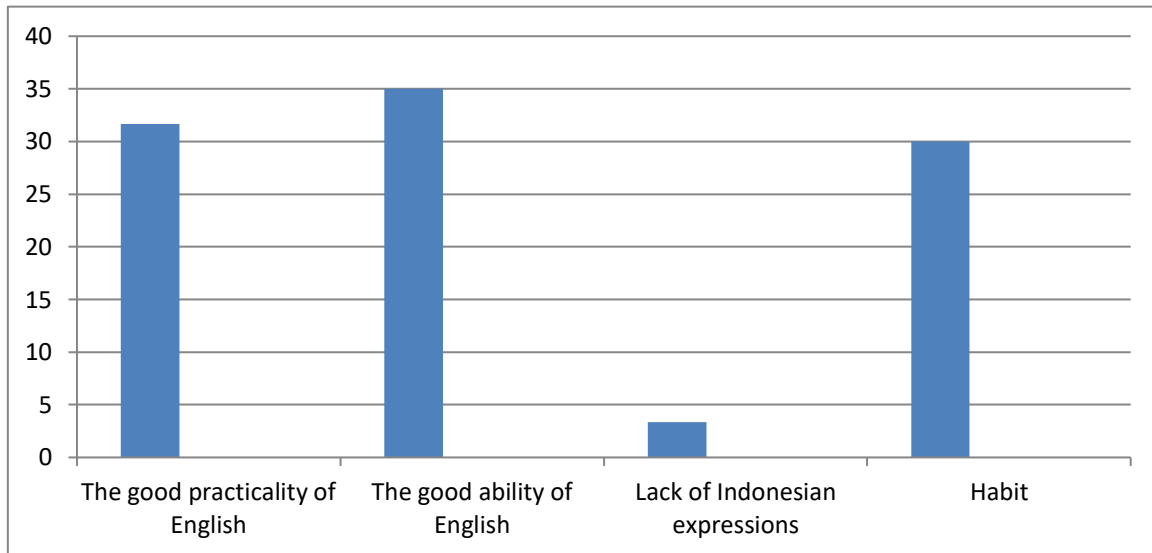
Kind of reasons

The data from questionnaire show that there has been conciousness and unconciousness in code switching. Most of the correspondents from the five groups are concious about their code switching . This feature is shown in the following table 7.

Table 7 Code Switching as Conciousness or Unconciousness Behaviour

No	Psychologi-cal States	The Number of Respondents					To tal	%
		DO	**GO**	**LA**	**LE**	**PO**		
1	Concious	4 (16%)	4 (16%)	5 (20%)	5 (20%)	4 (16%)	22	88
2	unconcious	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	-	-	1 (4%)	3	12
	TOTAL	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**25**	**100**

Table 7 shows that conciousness in code switching comprises 88%, far higher than unconcious code switching, which is only 12%. See the following chart 5 for the different states involment in code switching.

Chart 4 Psychological State of Code Switching
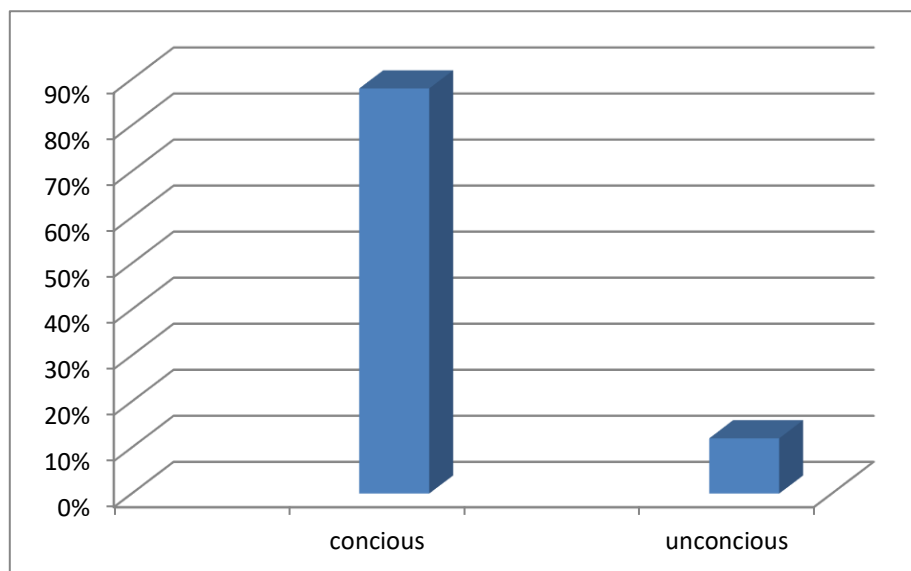
Types of psychological States

The conciousness with code switching has been allowed by the respondents' good ability in English. When they speak, they frequently use English, including when they meet in their work environment. Good ability of English is highly related to the frequency of using code switch. The following table 8 shows the frequency of code switch.

**Table 8 the frequency of using code switching**

No	Level of Frequency	The number of Respondents					Total	%
		DO	GO	LA	LE	PO		
1	Very often	-	-	-	3 (12%)	-	3	12
2	Often	3 (12%)	2 (8%)	3 (12%)	2 (8%)	3 (12%)	13	52
3	Sometimes	2 (8%)	3 (12%)	2 (8%)	-	2 (8%)	9	36
4	Never	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
	TOTAL	5	5	5	5	5	25	100

As can be seen in table 8 above, lecturer respondents employ the most often frequency of switch code, 12 %. This is possibly because they are good at English. The often frequency comprises 52% for all. Each group of doctors, lawyers, and politician respondents employ code switch with a frequency of 12% each, while government

officials and lecturers 8% each. The distribution of frequency of sometimes are 36% for all; and 8% for doctors, lawyers, and politicians, while 12 % for government officials.

The level of use frequency code switching among the 5 groups of respondents can clearly seen in the following chart 6.

Chart 5 frequency Level of Code Switch
By Code Switc Users Group

Group of Code Switch User
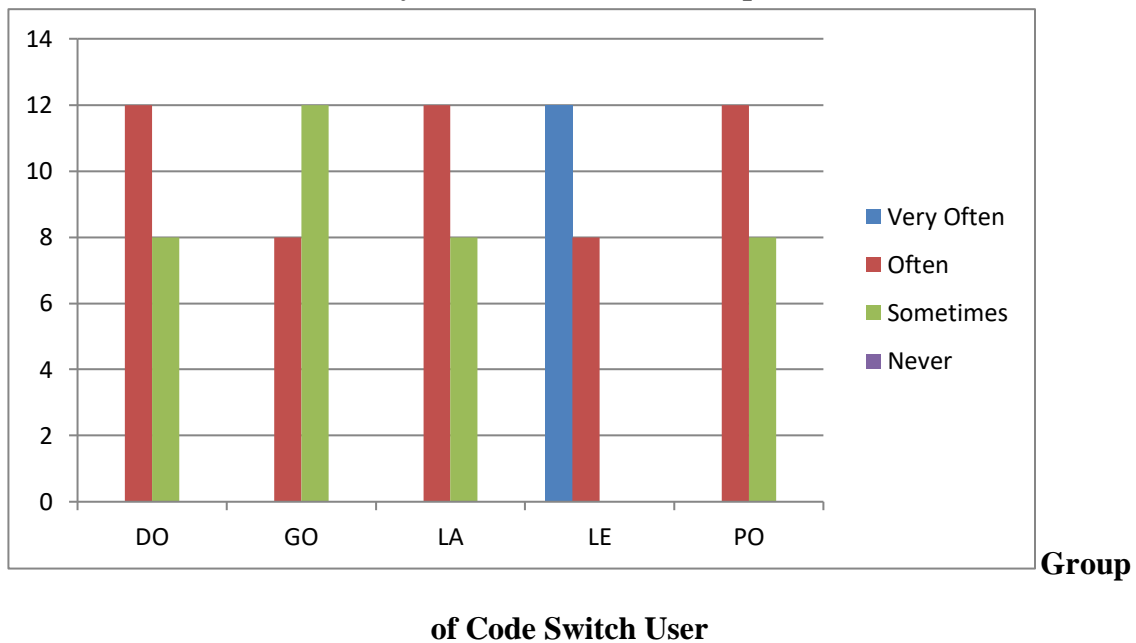
It can be said that most of respondents often use code switching without doubt. They use English in their conversations particularly among their community. It might be just true that all respondents have done code switching since their ability of English and their status as educated men allow that.

Conclusion

Based on the questionnaires, there are several reasons for code switching mentioned by the respondents. In term of the reasons of code switching, it is found three reasons; practicality of English, good ability of English, and lack of Indonesian expressions

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