# CHAPTER ONE

# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background of the Study

As social beings, humans cannot live without socializing with their surroundings. Communicating verbally with each other is something that we do every day and something that we need to keep a healthy mind and maintain good relationships with people in the society we live in. In communicating with the people around us, we use language which both sides believe can give a common understanding in what is being communicated. It is not a rare case when two or more parties use more than one language in their conversation if they feel the need to or have a reason behind it.

As stated by P. Trudgill, "Sociolinguistics is that part of linguistics which is concerned with language as a social and cultural phenomenon. It investigates the field of language and society & has close connections with the social sciences, especially social psychology, anthropology, human geography and sociology" (Some Definitions and Divisions pf Sociolinguistics, par. 3). Cultural phenomenon, which is also known as "the bandwagon effect" occurs when certain individuals behave a certain way merely because other individuals do as well" (Fog 1999), including the way one uses certain languages. In this thesis, I will

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discuss a certain phenomenon of Sociolinguistics which is specifically called Code-Switching.

Carol Myers-Scotton and William Ury define code-switching as the "use of two or more linguistic varieties in the same conversation or interaction" (par. 13). Code-Switching itself is a phenomenon that happens almost in every area of human society and includes many different languages in practice. To apply this theory, I have decided to choose Mr. Hidayat Saleh as the source of data for my thesis. Mr. Saleh is a lecturer at Maranatha Christian University who teaches, amongst others, the course called *Translating: Principles and Awareness* for 6th semester English Department students. The reason for choosing Mr. Saleh is because I notice that he does the act of Code-Switching a lot in the classroom for, assumingly, many different purposes. This is the phenomenon that I will analyze in my thesis.

I choose this topic, initially, because I have always been interested in Code-Switching due to the fact that it is a unique aspect of linguistics, since it is combining two different language varieties. Furthermore, I have also been curious and interested in the phenomena of Code Switching itself because I know a few people that regularly apply it in their conversation in daily basis and. From the experience, I notice how effective and efficient the method is..

MCU is located in Bandung, a city where one of the many Indonesian local languages/dialects, Sundanese, is still regularly used by most people. For this reason, some lecturers from the English Department often use a number of expressions and terms in, not one, but two languages, Sundanese and Standard Indonesian. This makes it even more interesting to discuss because it adds to the

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fact that the lecturers are not only fluent in one standard language and have some knowledge about one vernacular, but are also active English speakers.

The theory I am going to use to analyze the data will be based on Liu Aichun's theory of Code-Switching. Liu Aichun was a student at Beijing Foreign Studies majoring in English Literature. She has produced a paper about Code-Switching theories. I am going to use this theory to analyze my data. In her paper, she divides Code-Switching into five categories based on the reason behind the action, namely Owing to teacher's linguistic competence and insecurity, For ease of expression, For translation of new and unfamiliar words and expressions, Repetitive functions, and Socializing functions. (Teacher Codeswitching between English and Chinese in English-as-Foreign-Language-classroom, Liu, p. 13)

The data I use in this thesis were gathered from a particular lecturer in the English Department of Maranatha Christian University, namely Mr. Hidayat Saleh. The data were recorded from *Translating: Principles and Awareness* classes and saved in the form of audio recordings with a total of three recordings. The recordings were then transferred into a written form. I choose Mr. Saleh as the source of data to enable me to gather as much data and additional information as possible, considering that the course is one of the courses I am taking in this semester.

This thesis will help many people to understand Code-Switching, which is a phenomenon in sociolinguistics that cannot be avoided. It is something that happens often and naturally amongst non-native English speakers. Furthermore, this thesis will also explain that behind every act of Code-Switching, there is a certain purpose that underlies each and every one of them.

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**1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The problems I am analyzing in this thesis are:

1. What kinds of Code Switching are applied by the lecturer inside the classroom according to the theory of Liu Aichun?

2. What is/are the intention(s) behind the act of Code-Switching performed by the lecturer in *Translating: Principles and Awareness* class?

**1.3 Purpose of the Study**

1. This study is done to find out what kinds of Code Switching are applied by the lecturer inside the classroom according to the theory of Liu Aicun and analyze them.

2. This study is done to find out the intention(s) behind the act of Code-Switching performed by the lecturer inside the classroom in the course of *Translating: Principle and Awareness*

**1.4 Method of Research**

In the research process, first, I listed all the possibilities of source to gather the data. Second, I started to gather the data and seek for more information about the data by interviewing Mr. Hidayat Saleh, the chosen lecturer. Next, I transferred the data to a written form to make it easier to analyze. Furthermore, I looked up for the theories I could use to analyze the data and study them to make sure the data is valid to analyze. After I had studied the theories, I analyzed the data and finally drew some opinions from the analysis.

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## 1.5 Organization of the Thesis

I divide this thesis in four parts; the first part is Introduction, which consists of Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purposes of the Study, Method of Research and Organization of the Thesis. The second part is Theoretical Framework, which explains about the theories that underlie this thesis. The third part is the discussion of the main topic, and the last part is Conclusion drawn from the analysis in the previous chapter. This thesis ends with Bibliography indicating the sources taken, both from printed sources and electronic sources and Appendix.

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