

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Language is used as a means of communication. Language can also build and maintain a relationship with other people (Trudgill 105). Today, many people can speak more than one language and we can call them bilinguals or multilinguals. In daily activities, they switch over from one language to another language when they are speaking. It happens because of their ability to speak two languages or more.

There are many reasons that make someone a bilingual or multilingual. First, when that person goes to another country, we can call him or her as immigrant if they decide to reside there. Here, we can see that they have to interact with people in that area using a new language. Second, at school, they learn a foreign language. Third, that person lives in a country with different linguistic groups. In the US, there are many immigrants, so they use their own languages besides English (<http://climbtothestars.org/archives/2007/08/11/most-people-are-multilingual/>).

In bilingual environments, code switching often occurs. Code switching is the act of a person who switches between two codes (languages) or more in a discourse (Koziol 5). Code switching also happens when a speaker faces some social situations. According to Holmes (41), “People sometimes switch code within a domain or social situation, when there is some obvious change in the situation,...” and a bilingual switches his/her language when he/she is speaking with a particular participant or addressee; for instance, his/her friends or family. A participant or addressee can influence someone to choose a particular code depending on the speaker’s purpose to achieve what he or she wants. When a bilingual meets a person who shares the same ethnic group, he or she spontaneously switches his or her language to create a more intimate atmosphere (Koziol 30). Most of the early studies want to prove that code switching serves a purpose (Koziol 16).

As the subject of my study I have chosen some Americans at ‘The Center’, an English language tuition centre located in Jalan Setiabudi. They can speak Indonesian because some of them have been living in Bandung for a few years and they use Indonesian to communicate with Indonesian people. This is the reason why they are able to speak Indonesian. So now, Indonesian has become their second language. In that place, I find that they often use two languages, English and Indonesian in their daily activities as teachers.

At The Center, the conversations take place between American and Indonesian people. Here, I see that there is cross-cultural communication because they have different cultural and linguistic background. Although they do not come from the same community, they know and understand the two languages. So, they can switch their languages anytime without any difficult.

I take this topic because I see that code switching occurs in our daily interactions, but people do not realize it because some of them are unfamiliar with the term of code-switching. So, I want to give information about bilinguals switching their languages in their speech. I expect that the readers will know the functions of code switching, and be aware of various situations in which code switching occurs. I also hope that this thesis will be beneficial for students who will take the same topic.

In this thesis, I will analyze code switching in American people's speech when they are hanging out with Indonesian at 'The Center' by using a sociolinguistic approach. Sociolinguistics deals with the connections between language and society, and the way bilinguals use it in different social situations. I am going to use the fourteen functions of code switching by Jessica Marie Koziol as the theory for my analysis. Koziol's theory helps me recognize various functions of code switching. Sociolinguistics helps me to find out the purpose of the speakers when using those functions of code switching as Sociolinguistics is related to the social situation that the speakers are facing.

The reason for me to choose an observation is that as far as the data are concerned, I take the data from actual conversation. Doing an observation is easier for me to get the data for my topic rather than reading a book or watching a film.

Statement of the Problem

In this thesis I would like to discuss the following problems:

1. Which utterances show code switching?
2. What type of functions of code switching does the speaker make in his/her utterances?
3. What is (are) the purpose (s) of the speaker to switch code?

Purpose of the Study

In this thesis I would like to show:

1. The utterances which show code switching.
2. The type of functions of code switching in the speaker's utterances.
3. The purpose of the speaker to switch code.

Method of Research

In searching for the data, I do the following steps. First, I look for a place that is often visited by English native speakers. After finding it, I observe whether they switch codes or not when they communicate with each other. Second, I record and write down the data that I have collected. Then, I interview them to find their purpose of code switching. Third, I select the data and categorize them according to the function of code switching. Fourth, I apply the theory when analyzing the data. Finally, I draw a conclusion based on the analysis and findings of the data.

Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter One is Introduction, which consists of Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research, and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two provides the Theoretical Framework, which is concerned with the linguistic theory and the approach used in analyzing the data. Chapter Three contains the discussion on code switching done by those American teachers. Chapter Four is the Conclusion, which contains my comments on the findings about code switching. This thesis ends with the Bibliography and the Appendix.