

THE EFFECT OF ENGLISH ON WORLD LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY (ENGLISH CODE SWITCHING ON INDONESIAN CASE)

Arif Abdur Rahman¹, Ahmad Afandi²

STAI Darul Ulum Banyuwangi

arifrahman318@gmail.com

kangmazafandi@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The existence of English as a global language has impacted on the global linguistic variety. One of them is on the Indonesian language (Bahasa). Since it has been taught in Indonesia from colonial era to present. English have been in contact with Indonesian for a long time. Specific impact of English on Indonesian is the occurrence of code switching. It can be seen on three main area English code switching is often encountered. It is the focus of discussion in this article. Those main areas are workplace, school, and mass media. Even though English causes code switching, it also enriches vocabularies in Indonesian.

Keywords: *English, Indonesian, Code Switching, Linguistic Variety*

Introduction

Among other languages in the world, English is a language has been spread since long ago through trade and colonization. The spread of English has impacted on the global linguistic variety. The first contact Indonesian language with English is in colonial era. To develop the British *empire*, Stamford Raffles was instructed to construct government centres in Penang and Java (Indonesia) as well as Singapore in 1819 (Crystal, 2003). After governed for five years, the British colonial empire returned Indonesia to Dutch government. As one of foreign languages, the Dutch government kept teaching Indonesia people English and other Western languages.

However, in Japanese colonial era, all of things about English was annihilated, and English learning was eliminated (Gregory, 1964 as cited in Lauder, 2008). In the 1967, English was taught again as a foreign language according to the decision of educational and cultural minister (Hunayn, 2012). This English language teaching influences the diversity of Indonesian language (Bahasa), including the occurrence of

code switching. Generally, there are three main area which will be the focus this article regarding the use of English code switching in Indonesian language. These three areas are workplace, school, and mass media.

Code Switching

Code switching is a term that frequently comes across when discussing about linguistics. Code switching can be defined as using two languages at the same time when speaking. According to Hoffmann (1991a), code switching is generally described as the change of using two languages or language diversity in the same spoken time or conversation. Code switching frequently happens in an informal discussion between two people who know each other with the same academic, cultural, social, and economic background.

The same origins becomes the factors someone uses code switching in the conversation due to there is no obligation to use monolingual. Moreover, the use of code switching is considered more contemporary and following the era. Today, this assumption is increasingly widespread since English is progressively spoken in the global communication. Regarding to the types of code switching, Milroy & Muysken (1995:31) divide them into three categories. Namely, inter-utterance code-switching, inter-sentential or intra-sentential code-switching, and segmental or unitary code-switching.

On the other hand, Hoffmann (1991b) differentiates the types of code switching into five classes based on the area where the language is used. Those are intra-sentential, inter-sentential, establishing continuity, emblematic, and involving a change of pronunciation features. In Indonesian language (Bahasa), there are many types of English code switching is found a lot inserted in daily communications by Indonesian people. It can be seen either in a spoken language or written language.

In the spoken language, English code switching is often inserted both formal and informal conversations. Whereas, the printed format can be found in a chat and status or news feed through social media, such as *whatsapp*, *blackberry messenger*, *facebook*, *twitter*, and others. Some articles and news in the newspaper and magazine also use English code switching. In general, English code switching can be happened in many conversation opportunities anywhere, such as in the meeting room, market, restaurant, school, etc.

Code Switching Area

There are three main areas where English code switching is often encountered. Those areas are workplace, school, and mass media.

Workplace is the place where the English terminologies are easily found. These terminologies are usually used either in a private or government company. Nevertheless, English is not the formal employees communication. The terminologies frequently used, for instance, *on the job training; quality control; down payment; human research development*; and so forth.

There are some factors why the English terminologies used in the workplace besides the influence of globalization era where English is as an international communication tool. Setiawan (2016a) clarifies three reasons why those terminologies employed in the workplace, namely (1) the terminologies are already familiar to users; (2) it is difficult to translate the words; if we insist in translating those words, it may take long explanation; and (3) it is difficult to find the equivalent words in the local language. If classified by Hoffmann category, the use of those terminologies including types of intra-sentential. For example, in a form of sentences as follows:

(Receptionist-Customer Dialogue)

Customer – *Apakah persyaratan jika membeli motor secara kredit di dealer?*

[what is the requirement if we buy a motorcycle on credit at the dealer?]

Receptionist – *Harus memberikan DP (Down Payment)*

[you should provide down payment]

(Job seeker-Secretary dialogue)

Job seeker – *Dimana saya bisa menitipkan application letter?*

[where I can put the application letter]

Secretary – *Anda bisa memberikan langsung kepada HRD (human resources development)*

[you can give directly to human resources development]

Education is as the first place for the growth of English code switching in Indonesia. Since English as the first foreign language has been taught for Indonesian students, many English teachers try to use both languages (English and Bahasa) when they are teaching. Initially, the code switching is utilized by English teachers due to a reason for making the students familiar with English terms or vocabularies as simple as

daily vocabularies. However, this technique becomes an ingrained habit not only for teachers but also students. Besides it is often found in the English subject, the employ of code switching can be seen in the bilingual classroom.

In 2006, Indonesian government began promoting international standard schools. This attempt is the manner of the Indonesian government to create equal education to other countries. This international standard school start from primary to senior high school (Indonesian government rule, No 19, 2005). By using the term international school standard, school with international label inevitably enforces the teachers, and the students use English. Yet, the limited vocabulary of the teachers and the students make them forced to use bilingual language. Whereas, Cahyani (2015a) argues teachers and students insert code switching because different purpose rather than only the lack of English vocabularies. There are three purposes the employ of code switching in the classroom, those are (1) for constructing and transmitting knowledge; (2) for classroom management; and (3) for interpersonal relation (Cahyani, 2015b). It is called for constructing and transmitting knowledge because sometimes is so hard for the teacher and the students to deliver in English so that they repeat in Bahasa to emphasize the meaning. Then, for classroom management is usually undertaken by the teacher to prompt the students' interaction in communication using English. For interpersonal relation is carried out by the students generally for asking agreement. The types of English code switching is commonly found are intra-sentential and inter-sentential. For example, *excuse me! Saya mau ke kamar mandi* [I want to go to toilet], open page 14 *dan pahami isinya* [understand the content], *saya tadi dari kantin* for eating some food *sehingga telat* [I was from canteen. Therefore I am late] and others.

Mass media is a means which the written language often experiences code switching. It can be seen in some Indonesian news article; the writers frequently use English terminologies combined with Bahasa. English code switching is used as the title of material in the form slogans and ordinarily by the circumstances happen in Indonesia (Setiawan, 2016b). As example, *headline news; Save KPK* [Corruption Eradication Commission], *mark-up, distributor*, and others. Besides as slogans, employing English terminologies can attract the readers to read the article. Moreover, English terminologies are used due to the complicatedness to find the equivalent words in Bahasa. Therefore, it is very reasonable for the journalist to use English terminologies.

Conclusion

The use of English code switching is common thing found in Indonesian conversation. The main area where this linguistic variety is often inserted in the conversation are workplace, school, and mass media. Some factors which cause this code switching happens. One of them is the adversity to find the identical word in Bahasa. Also, not all the English vocabularies can be translated in Bahasa. Even since there is no words with the similar meaning in Bahasa, some English vocabularies become borrowing words with adjustments to spelling and pronunciation. For example, *b3:s* [bus]; *sinjal* [signal], *matras* [mattress], *fotokopi* [photocopy]; and so on. To sum up, even though the spread of English language influences the language diversity, actually, it enriches the local vocabularies.

References

- About legal foundation of international standard school. Retrieved from <https://idtesis.com/landasan-hukum-penyelenggaraan-rsbi/>
- Cahyani, H. (2015). *Code-switching in Indonesian tertiary bilingual classrooms: A deficiency or a strategy?* (Ph.D.). University of South Australia.
- Crystal, D. (2003). *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of The English Language* (Second ed.). Rotolito Lombarda: Cambridge Univesity Press.
- Hoffmann, C. (1991). *An introduction to bilingualism*. Edinburgh: Longman.
- Hunayn, I. I. (2012). *Sejarah bahasa Inggris sebagai bahasa asing di Indonesia*. Retrieved from <http://britishicca.blogspot.com/2012/04/sejarah-bahasa-inggris-sebagai-bahasa.html>
- Lauder, A. (2008). The status and function of English in Indonesia: A review of key factors. *Makara Human Behavior Studies In Asia*, 12(1), 9-20. doi: 10.7454/mssh.v12i1.128
- Milroy, L., & Muysken, P. (1995). *One speaker, two languages* (1st ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press.
- Setiawan, D. (2016). English Code Switching in Indonesian Language. *Universal Journal Of Educational Research*, 4(7), 1545-1552. doi: 10.13189/ujer.2016.040707