

Codes of teenage characters and mama in their talks portraying the sociolinguistic features

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ABSTRACT

Code switching and code mixing have become a trend in teenagers' communication today. Not only in communicating, code switching and code mixing also influence the author's style in writing novels. However, recently, it is not easy to define which is code switching or code mixing because the occurrence of the codes is very tight recently. The characters in the novel often do code-mixing at least Indonesian-English. The objectives of this study are to find out the form of codes and the sociolinguistic features of the characters in Refrain novel. This research uses descriptive qualitative design from collecting the data until analyzing them. The result of the analysis yields some forms of codes spoken by the characters in the novel. The forms are sentence, clause, phrases like noun phrase & verb phrase, and words like noun, verb, adjective, & adverb. The other problem indicating their social background reflects the sociolinguistic features of the characters. They are education, family, friendship, and occupation.

Keywords: *teenagers, code switching, code mixing, sociolinguistic features, novel*

Introduction

In society, a good communication keeps a relation between individuals run well (Holmes, 2013). Linguistics is the scientific study of human language, its structure, and its diversity, and how it formed and shaped by it. How humans understand and carry out social practices are formed and chosen by them (Farkhan, 2008) This research will use dialogues of a novel to analyze or describe the use of code switching and code mixing which contain in it. Code switching is a part of study in Sociolinguistics. Code switching is commonly used in direct communication. Code mixing is the use of language elements from one language through special utterance into other languages. This mixing usually is used more than one language in communicating process. In fact, Code switching is not only used in daily life but also in a novel.

However, in the novel, the existence of code switching and code mixing is challenging to differentiate recently. This is led by the common expression of the language change in which as if there is no border between the languages. People in any condition and any time are able to articu-

late the codes although sometime the meaning of the codes does not match to the original meaning (Ohoiwutun, 2002).

Furthermore, some morphological process occurs in the codes often breaks the rule in the perspective of Linguistics. For example, the word "copy" in English. People commonly say "ngopi" in order to inform that they will make a duplicate of a certain document. Yet, the term "ngopi" will have different meaning when the communication without context that is drinking a cup of coffee.

The researcher interests to analyze the form of codes in dialogue on *Refrain* novel and the sociolinguistic features of the characters in *Refrain* novel (Rafiq, 2016). *Refrain* novel is one of Indonesian novel with the context of international setting pointing out by the characters with international reputation (Efendi, 2009; Maharani, 2018).

Talking about the codes, Wardhaugh (2006, p. 88) states that code refers to variety of languages. It can also be called a system used by two or more people to communicate. Communication itself can make people life expectancy longer. A good communication has a key which can be understood by speakers and addressee.

Rahardi (2010: 17) states that code is a speech system which its language elements applied has characteristics appropriate to the background, speaker, and speaker's relation with addressee in speech situation.

From the definition above, it can be concluded that code is a variation of language which has certain characteristics related to background speech, speaker, the relationship between the speaker and the recipient in the speech situation. Whenever the intended person understands the speaker code, they will make a decision to continue the conversation and repeat the statement.

Wardhaugh then divides the codes into two types, code switching and code mixing. Code switching (Wardhaugh, 2006, p. 101) can occur in conversation between speakers' turns or within a single speaker's turn. It arises from individual choice or can be used as a major identity marker for a group of speakers who must deal with more than one language in their common pursuits.

Meanwhile, Code mixing is the use of language elements from one language through special utterances into other languages. This mixing usually is using more than one language in the communication process. Some linguists say that code mixing or interference refers to the use of formal elements of phoneme language codes, morphemes, words, phrases, sentences in a context from one language to another.

However, sociolinguists today are generally more concerned with social variation in language than with regional variation. Studies of social variation in language grew out of studies of regional variation. It was largely in order to widen the limits and repair the flaws that were perceived to exist in the latter that investigators turned their attention to social-class variation in language. Wardhaugh (2006, p. 105) states that social class giving proper weight to the various factors that can be used to determine social position, e.g., occupation, place of residence, education, income, racial or ethnic origin, cultural background, caste, and religion.

Some previous studies in the relevant topic are talking about code switching and code mixing in a separate way. They analyze data in the form of code switching and figure out the factors. In another hand, other researchers do the same way in evaluating the code mixing with the same factors determining it. What the difference between them is only put in the form.

This article is informing and confirming that both of them are interchangeable in the form. Further, people cannot be investigated whether the use of codes is mixing or switching in social context.

By this explanation, both codes will be easily depicted in various places regarding to regional variation. However, when the codes are

seen in the perspective of social variation, this will lead to the fusion of the codes. It is quite challenging to say that code switching and code mixing are different from each other. Yet, the fact is that they are interchangeable in the use of utterances. They have the same position in grammatical rule and they also have the same function in Sociolinguistics (Rahardi, 2010).

Method

The researcher chooses dialogue on the *Refrain* novel with code switching and code mixing in Indonesian-English as the main data. Based on the statement, the main data of this research are the word, phrase, clause and sentence. The supporting data are theoretical book, internet and review. The researcher uses secondary data source gained from *Refrain* novel. The researcher uses observation method. The observation method in this study uses advanced techniques in the form of note-taking technique (Misbahuddin, 2013). Note taking technique is used as a technique in data collection. The researcher is not only collects the data, but also analyses the data to obtain the research's result (Creswell, 2009; O'Donoghue & Punch, 2003; Sudaryanto, 2015).

Result and Discussion

The Forms of Codes

At this time, many people adopt bilingualism to speak, especially to speak with unknown people and people who are from different countries. Bilingualism is not only used in conversation directly but also in writing, one of which is in the novel. The form of code switching and code mixing used in *Refrain* novel are as follows :

Sentence

This data is the example of codes spoken by Analise and Nata in their dialogue.

*"Perasaan semacam ini wajar, kok. **You just have to fight for it.**"*

("Such a kind of feeling is normal. You just have to fight for it.")

The utterance can be proven as the example of codes in form of sentence by having the concept of English grammar. At least, a sentence has noun as a subject and verb as a predicate.

You just have to fight for it.
S Predicate

Other example of codes in form of sentence is in the dialogue between Nadja and Vidia Rossa.

“When are you going to forgive me about that? Aku sudah bilang aku nggak sengaja. Lagi pula, bukankah waktu itu aku kirim hadiah untuk Anna?”

(“When are you going to forgive me about that? I have said I had no intension in doing that. By the way, didn’t I send a gift for Anna?”)

Codes occurs not only on the declarative sentence but also on the interrogative sentence as follow.

When are you going to forgive me about that?

QW S Predicate

Clause

There are not abundant data consisting of codes in from of clause. This is because the point between clause and sentence or phrase is quite similar in the utterance. However, this data describes the form clause.

“Kadang, aku cukup egois untuk berharap... Mama bisa seperti ibu-ibu lainnya, yang hadir untuk mengambil rapor, datang ke acara-acara sekolah... and just be here.”

(“Sometimes, I am too selfish to hope ... Mama could be my dreamed mother, who come to have my rapport, come to school events ... and just be here”)

The basic concept of clause is actually similar to the concept of sentence. A clause has, at least, noun as a subject and verb as a predicate. However, the difference is often the existence of conjunction that causes the meaning of one clause depends on the other clause.

and just be here

C Predicate

In this data, there are conjunction (C) and predicate. Yet, noun as a subject does not appear in the utterance. By having the complete utterance spoken by the character, the noun as a subject can be identified by looking at the other clauses. “Mama bisa seperti ibu-ibu lainnya, yang hadir untuk mengambil rapor, datang ke acara-acara sekolah”. The pattern is parallelism and sentence type is compound. It is absolutely the subject is “Mama”, mother.

Phrase

Phrase is identified by the existence of headword in the combination of some different word classes.

Noun Phrase

The headword indicates the kind of phrase. By having noun as the headword, it can be seen that the phrase built will be noun phrase, as the data below.

“Love at first sight betul-betul ada.”
(“Love at first sight is truly real”)

Love at first sight

N PP

The headword of the data above is “love” categorized as noun supported by Prepositional Phrase (PP) formulated from preposition + adjective + noun.

“Aku lihat kamu masukin surat kedalam kotak secret admirer yang ada di perpustakaan.”

(“I saw you gave a letter in to a box of secret admirer located in the library.”)

secret admirer

adj N

The form of noun phrase above can be said as the simplest one and the most common one that adjective (adj) supports noun as headword to form Noun Phrase. In the novel, the different model of Noun Phrase is found.

*“Ternyata **Prince Charming** memang bener-bener ada.”*

“Wow, Seemingly the Prince Charming is truly real”

Prince Charming

N adj

The position of noun and adjective in this data is in reverse of the position of them in the previous data. Yet, it can be categorized as Noun Phrase as well.

Prince (that is) Charming

N adj

The omission of “that is” is not breaking the rule of English grammar. This becomes a style of efficiency in spoken language although it is also common for written language.

Verb Phrase

The verb phrase in grammatical rule is indicated by the headword in form of verb. It is combined with often adverb or other word classes. Besides, verb phrase is the most sensitive phrase influenced by tense (Nordquist, 2018).

*Radit aja udah **booking limousine** untuk malam itu, dan gue juga udah reservasi make-up di salon dari jauh-jauh hari.*

(Radit has been booking limousine for that night and I did make make-up reservation at beauty center the few days ago.)

booking limousine

V N

In this data, how the way Verb Phrase is built indicating the influence of tense. In changing the codes, especially from Indonesia to English, people are often using verb + ing as the marker of their style.

Regarding to the context, “booking” is a verb influenced by a certain tense and “limousine” is a noun functioning as the object. They are combined to formulate a Verb Phrase in the context of having Noun Phrase in the previous word to build a sentence.

*Radit aja udah **booking limousine***

N (S) VP (predicate)

Word

All types of words are found in the data, inserted as a foreign code in the Indonesian conversation. They are noun, verb, adjective and adverb.

Noun

A noun refers to a person, place or a thing, a quality or an activity (Oxford, 2008:298). In the data, some elements of noun are found related to the morphological processes.

*“Cuma telat sebentar aja, kok. Tadi ada **emergency**, tau.”*

(I’m just little late. I got an emergency, you know)

This example reflecting the basic element of noun. The form can be easily found in the dictionary.

Other examples below show some morphological processes to build a noun.

*“Ah, kamu sama Radit juga gitu, malah sampai ninggalin **voice-mail** yang isinya bunyi ciuman semua...”*

“Ah, you and Radit are the same, even leaving a voice-mail contained with all noises of kisses”

“Voice-mail” in this example indicates the form of noun by having a fusion between two nouns, “voice” and “mail”. It functions to specify the

meaning of a noun and to make the utterance efficient replacing “a mail that consists of voice”.

*“Gue datang khusus untuk mengundang lo masuk ke tim **cheerleader**.”*

(I intentionally come here to invite you to join the cheerleader team)

The suffix “-er” often builds a noun from verb. By having that suffix, the noun means the person who does something. Cheerleader comes from “cheerlead” (V) + “-er” (marker of the doer). The last example found in the data is abbreviation.

*“...Di sini, pasti menyenangkan ya, luas sekali! Ada kolam renang, **gym** pribadi... itu tempat apa?”*

(Here, it must be joyful, spacious. There is swimming pool, private **gym** ... what is that)

The word “gym” is commonly an abbreviation from the “gymnastics” or “gymnasium”. Yet, in this context, the abbreviation is derived from the “gymnasium” because the speaker is telling the listener about the facilities provided.

Verb

In common, a verb is a word that indicates an action.

*“Yaah. Kayaknya aku nggak bisa, Nat, aku harus **cheer** untuk tim basket...”*

“Ooh. I am afraid I can’t, Nat, I must **cheer** for basket team.

The word “cheer” indicates the codes in form of verb. It bridges the noun as a subject, before it, and complement, after it. A verb in expressing the codes commonly ignores the existence of tense. However, in this example the grammatical rule is correct by having “aku” as a subject and “cheer” as a verb.

Adjective

Adjective means word that describes a noun (Oxford, 2008:5).

*“Dia kan jutek, nyolot, dan sok dewasa. Sikapnya yang keliatan **cool**, tapi sebenarnya dia kayak anak kecil.”*

(He is selfish, talkative, and mature-like. His attitude is cool but actually he is childish.”)

Implementing the codes in form of adjective is quite difficult to identify because often it joins with noun to build a noun phrase. In this data, the word “cool” is found as the representative of adjective in the whole novel dialogues. “cool” in

this utterance supports the essence of someone's attitude.

Adverb

Adverb means a word that adds information to a verb, adjective, phrase, or another adverb (Oxford, 2008:7).

"Klaudiee... **please** jangan banyak tanya. Tolong suruh Nata pulang, ya?"

(Klaudie... **please** do not ask me more. Please ask Nata to go home)

As what happens in the form of adjective, codes in form of adverb are also scarce to discover. Like the word "please", it is actually a common word to express the codes either as adjective or adverb. Yet, in this data, the word expresses the adverb by having the position of preceding the request to make it polite.

The sociolinguistic features of the characters in *Refrain* novel

There are several characters found in this novel to find out the sociolinguistic features of why they use codes in their talks. They are Niki, Nata, Annalise, Oliver, Vidia Rossa, Hellena and Vanya.

Education

The character explained having the university level in the novel is Nata. After graduating from his SMA, senior high school, he continued his study abroad. He attended the Music School in New York.

The writer builds his characteristic in having the codes by showing his educational background that pushes him to master several languages. In his education atmosphere, English must be dominant in his daily life. Yet, this will be different when he meets his Indonesian friend that speaks Bahasa Indonesia. By mastering two or more languages, he is capable to produce codes.

Friendship

Each school has sport teams such as cheerleaders and basketball. Niki, Hellena and Vanya are included in the cheerleading team at SMU Harapan. The culture in those teams is different from other kinds of team in common. The use of codes will ensure that they are the member of the teams. They deliberately do not translate some terms in their communication to point their position as an exclusive member.

The adoption of some terms in cheerleaders and basketball do not interrupt their understanding about the rule or function of the team

(Angie, 2015). Using the codes for the first time will be heard as something weird for new members. Yet, by and by, they will be familiar with the terms without any translation to another language, such as Bahasa Indonesia. Even, many of the terms do not have any equity translation in the targeted language. This leads the member to use codes instead of translating the terms into Bahasa Indonesia.

Family

Growing up in the multicultural-multilingual family will be different from that in family with monolingual. At least, these conditions will be easily depicted from how the child interacts with other people.

Annalise whose mother as an International model must live with various languages. She gets this experience from interacting to foreigners whenever she is going to her mother work-place.

Occupation

Vidia Rossa is a Russian-American-Indonesian descent. She is Annalise's mother. From her genealogy, it will be easier to identify that she must be a polyglot, mastering some languages. This is strongly supported by her job as an international model and fashion designer. She must speak to many different people with various language background. That is why she must know all the codes used in the communication at global workspace.

Conclusion

To conclude the explanation, code mixing and code switching are actually the same function in conversation. They need not to be separated in the use and even it is interchangeable. People cannot identify others' intention by having the codes, only from the form. It must be investigated through deeper understanding.

In a novel, the codes can be seen from the conversation in dialogue. The codes also can be portrayed the sociolinguistic features reflected through the characters of each actor.

The researchers found 3 forms of the codes in *Refrain* novel. Those are words, phrases, clauses, and sentence with general structure. To portray the sociolinguistic features of the characters, the researcher found 4 sociolinguistic features identified by their own background in having the codes. Those are education, friendship, family and occupation.

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