

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

As a social creature, a person needs to interact with one another either verbally or non-verbally. Although both are important, most people tend to use verbal communication to convey messages. Language, as a tool of communication, is the basic means to express ideas, feelings, and thoughts.

As explained by Finochiaro (1974), language is a system and a set of rule of one culture and has a function for interacting and communicating with other people. Therefore, language can be said as a human identity because it can create a social relationship.

Since there are many cultures with their different languages in this world, there seems to be a demand for each person to master a foreign language (besides their mother tongues), especially English, as an international language which becomes familiar in daily conversations (Crystal 1998). Since it is urgent, many people try to speak English every time as much as possible. It is therefore, not surprising if they speak more than one language at the same time in their daily conversations. For instance, in language classroom where teachers or lecturers often switch their language (English-Indonesia) to deliver the information to the students (as cited in Indharyati 2006) Also in the conversation among friend who are able to speak more than one language. This situation may lead to the occurrence of code switching.

Code switching is a changing process from one language to another language in the middle of an utterance (Spolsky 1998). Code switching can occur between or within sentences involved in phrases, words, or parts of words. However, it takes place not only in conversation but also in written forms such as letters, magazines, newspapers or literary books like novels.

There are many kinds of novels; one of them is chicklit, which usually uses code switching. The reason I choose this kind of novels as the object of investigation relates to the fact that this genre is particularly popular among young adults.

This study investigates code switching in a chicklit novel *Beauty Case* by Icha Rahmanti. The reason why the novel is chosen as the focus of investigation is that the novel contains many switching from Bahasa as the source language into English and Sundanese, an ethnic language.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

This study examines the phenomenon of code switching in the novel *Beauty Case* by Icha Rahmanti. Research problems are formulated in the following research questions:

- a. What types of code switching are performed by the characters in the novel *Beauty Case*?
- b. What are the functions of code switching performed by the characters in the novel *Beauty Case*?

1.3 Aims of the Study

The aims of the present study are to:

- a. Identify the type of code switching performed by the characters in *Beauty Case*.
- b. Find the functions of code switching performed by the characters in *Beauty Case*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

There have been many studies that investigate code switching. However, analyzing code switching in a novel has not been well researched. This study, which is analyzing the use of code switching in a chicklit novel is expected to enrich the literature on code switching.

1.5 Methodology

This research employs a descriptive method, and is largely qualitative. In addition, some quantification is also used to support the qualitative procedures. As asserted by Nazir (1983), a descriptive method is used to describe systemically a situation of area of interest factually and recently. The descriptive study is guided by a couple of research questions.

The first step of analysis is underlining every word, phrase, and clause, in the novel *Beauty Case*, which are associated with code switching; the second is categorizing them into a table form according to its functions and types. And then the third is to find out what kinds of functions and types occur most.

1.6 Clarification of Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation of the terms in the title of this paper, the following key terms will be clarified and specified as follows:

- a. Code switching is a conversational strategy used to established, cross or destroy group boundaries; to create, evoke or change interpersonal relations with their rights and obligations (Gal, 1988).
- b. Chicklit novel is one of a novel type that usually read by young women and tell us about 'twenty something' women with their problems who try to get their self identity. (Icha Rahmanti in her novel *Cintapuccino*, 2004)

1.7 Organization of the Paper

The paper of the research will be organized as follows:

CHAPTER I

This chapter contains the background, statement of the problems, aims of the study, significance of the study, methodology, clarification of key terms, and organization of the paper.

CHAPTER II

It consists of theoretical foundation that provides a basis for conducting the research problems.

CHAPTER III

This part covers the methodology of the research, the steps of how the writer conducts the research.

CHAPTER IV

This part reports the result of the research. This chapter contains the research findings and discussions.

CHAPTER V

This last chapter contains the interpretation toward the result of the research in the form of conclusion and suggestion in accordance with this research.

