

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.2 Background of the study

Language, as a means of communication, has an important role in human life. In communicating with others, people need language to transfer what they have in their mind to others. This is related to Wardaugh's definition of language as a system of arbitrary vocal symbol used for human communication (Wardaugh, 1973:3, in Brown, 1987:4).

In the global era, lately, the growing needs of communication in all aspects of human life such as in business, education, and relationship among countries, especially Indonesia and other countries cause a growing bilingual or even multilingualism phenomenon in Indonesia. This fact has become one of the factors which forces Indonesian to develop themselves in learning other languages including her mother tongue language. English language, especially, is utilized in many international schools or even semi-international schools as their medium of instruction. It is not surprising if there are people, especially the young who have mastered their mother tongue sometimes code switch their language to English alternately or in other words they do code switching, i.e. the alternation of two languages within a single discourse, sentence or constituent (Poplack, 1980).

To a great extent, code switching often occurs in people's lives now. Due to the reason, I became interested in conducting a study on this phenomenon. In this study, I intended to reveal

the motivations people switching their language to another language and to categorize types of code switching that are employed.

As far as I have observed, there are many researchers who do investigations on real-life code switching. However, only few studies have been conducted on written materials, for example a novel. Thus, I decided to conduct a study of code switching through it. A novel was chosen as my research data because it is more interesting and suitable than any other written genres. In a novel, people can find long complete stories as well as learn something from the characters.

Being 20 Something is Hard published on August, 2007 was selected as an object of investigation for some reasons. One of the reasons was in this novel the author prefers using multilingual to monolingual, although she uses Indonesia language as the dominant language. Thus, code switching phenomenon chosen as the object of the present study often occurs. Secondly, the novel tells about the life of urban young in Jakarta, especially the young who spend their university education in abroad, which forces them to be multilingual society. Based on the reasons above, I conclude that *Being 20 Something is Hard* was an interesting novel to do research on.

In this present study, I focus on the code switching which was conducted by the main character.

1.2 Theoretical Framework

This study is framed by some related theories, which would be discussed in this part, starting from the theories related to code switching, and some other theories related to the subject of the study.

1.2.1 Definition of Code Switching

Code switching is a term in linguistics referring to using more than one language. In addition, some scholars have tried to define code switching. For instance, Cook (in Stott, 2006:31) describes code switching as going from one language to the other in the mid-speech when both speakers know the same language. Others define code switching as follows: the use of more than one language by two people engaged in a speech act (Poplack, 1980; Lipski, 1985; Gonzales-Velásquez, 1995; Myusken, 2000, in Zirker, 2007:7). It can occur between the speakers involved in a conversation or within a speech turn of a single speaker. Code switching can appear on several language levels including syntactic, phonological and morphological levels.

People (bilinguals) may do code switching because they are momentarily lost for words in one of their languages, but research shows that there are many other reasons for code switching. Crucially, it has become clear that code switching is not necessarily the sign of a problem, but rather the illustration of “skilled manipulation of overlapping sections of two (or more) grammars, and that there is virtually no instance of ungrammatical combination of two languages in code-switching, regardless of the bilingual ability of the speaker” (Li Wei, 2007).

1.2.2 Types of Code Switching

Poplack (1980) has divided code switching into three categories. Those are tag-switching, intrasentential, and intersentential. Tag-switching occurs when a speaker inserts a tag statement from one language into another language. Examples of this in English are taking phrases such as you know, I mean, no way, et cetera. Romaine (1989) gives an example; *es dificil encontrar trabajo estes dias*, you know? “It’s hard to find work these days, you know?” The example shows the use of code switching between English and Spanish. From the example, it can be seen that tag-switching may be inserted easily at a number of points in a monolingual utterance without violating syntactic rules because tag switching is subject to minimal syntactic restriction (Romaine, 1991:112).

Another type of code switching is called ‘intrasentential’ code switching. This switching appears within the clause or sentence boundary. An example of this type can be seen in following sentence switching between two languages those are Tok-Pisin and English: what’s so funny? Come be good. Otherwise, *yu bai go long kot*. “What’s so funny? Come be good. Otherwise, you’ll go to court.” The complexity of intrasentential code switching required that the speakers have sophisticated knowledge of the grammars of both languages, as well as knowledge of how those grammars map onto one another (Poplack, in Hammink, 2000). In line with the suggestion from Poplack, Romaine (1991) pointed out that intrasentential switching involves the greatest syntactic risk and may be avoided by all but the most fluent bilinguals.

The last type of code switching is intersentential switching. This switching involves a switch at a clause or sentence boundary, where each clause or sentence is in one language or another. It may also occur between speaker turns. Intersentential switching can be thought of as

requiring greater fluency in both languages than tag switching because major portions of the utterance must conform to the rules of both languages. An example from Puerto Rican bilingual Spanish or English speech is given by Poplack (1980): Sometimes I'll start a sentence in English *y termino in espanol*. "Sometimes I'll start a sentence in English and finish it in Spanish."

1.2.3 Motivations and Functions of Code Switching

A bilingual may do code switching due to both social and psychological reasons. While sociolinguists examine the social environments and conscious motives for code switching, psycholinguists look at how code switching is processed. In this research, I focus on the social reasons for code switching. Wardhaugh (2006) states that social reasons are obviously influenced by the people around the speaker, a desire to fit in, and need for solidarity, among other reasons.

The area of sociolinguistics and code switching has been a widely researched topic in linguistics. Therefore, code switching is usually thought of as a social phenomenon. Cheng and butler (1989: 295) suggest some motives a speaker may have to code switch. Those motives are conversational topic, role of the speaker, setting of the interaction, familiarity of the two speakers, age, sex, race, ethnic, linguistic background, etc.

Switching languages may also allow a speaker to assert power, declare solidarity, maintain certain neutrality when both codes are used, express identity, and so on (Wardhaugh, 2006: 110). For example, if a monolingual English speaker enters the conversation of a group of Indonesian-English speakers who are conversing in both Indonesian and English, the group will most likely begin speaking only English, in order to allow the monolingual to participate in the conversation, thereby expressing their solidarity with the monolingual. If the bilingual group

wishes to assert linguistic power over the monolingual, they might continue speaking only in Indonesian to exclude him or her. Switches also occur to clarify a statement, emphasize that has been said, show politeness, or even show one's prowess in both languages.

Hoffman (1991:116, in Wahdani) suggests some reasons for bilinguals to switch their languages. Those reasons are when talking about a particular topic people sometimes prefer to talk about a particular topic in one language rather than in another. Sometimes, they feel free and more comfortable to express their emotional feelings in a language that is not their everyday language. People sometimes also like to quote a famous expression or saying of some well-known figures. When expressing emphatic feeling to something, people tend to switch their language. People also use an interjection in another language (inserting sentence filler or sentence connector). When doing a repetition used for clarification, intention of clarifying the speech content for interlocutor, people may switch their language. Furthermore, people switch their language in order to express their group identity.

In the relation of code switching and its function, Pascasio (as cited In Indharyati, 2006) found that code switching is performed in purposes of making a direct quotation, directing a message to a specific addressee, giving an interjection or an utterance filler, repeating the message either literally or in modified form, qualifying a previous statement, distinguishing between opinion and fact, making inquires versus giving information, and expressing politeness.

In the context of radio program, Koziol (2000, in Indharyati: 2006) divides code switching functions into fourteen types: personalization (when people want to clarify a point, they create a certain atmosphere of shared ethnic experience, heritage, and distinctiveness), reiteration designation (When people want to reemphasize a meaning, they repeat what they have

said in another language), designation substitution (some people like to use their language for a term of endearment to designate one of their friends), emphasis (This function occurs to emphasize a particular segment of utterance), clarification (This function occurs when people want to specify what they are talking about or to make a clarification of the message).

Objectification (When people want to resist creating a more intimate, friendly, or comfortable atmosphere, they do code switching), untranslatability (This function usually occurs to an issue or concept that is rather abstract), mitigating message (To make the message sound more polite and less demanding, people may switch their language), interjection (To get the interlocutor's attention and also to highlight what follows the interjection, people may use an interjection in a language that is not used in the general conversation), parenthesis (It is any incidental or extra information that the speaker chooses to give his interlocutor on a certain subject he has just mentioned), quotation (This function occurs because direct quotations are almost recounted in the original language), and topic shift (It occurs when people discuss two things in different topic).

Meanwhile, according to the context in the movie, Draemel (2009) found twenty two distinct functions. The first function is **exclusion**. This function is an attempt to exclude any "assumed" monolingual speakers. The second is **test of knowledge** function. The bilingual speaker switches languages in order to deduce whether or not the "intruder" is also bilingual. The third function is **solidarity**. The bilingual speaker switches languages around other bilingual speakers to create a sense of "togetherness." This may be used to build social, cultural, political, or familial unit.

The next function is **formality**. The bilingual speaker switches languages to stress or highlight moments of formality and appropriateness. Then the fifth function is **courtesy**. The bilingual speaker switches languages so that the monolingual speaker can understand. The code switching is made out of courtesy and respects for those that monolingual. The sixth function is **comfort level** function. This function is used when bilingual speaker switches to the language that he or she feels most comfortable speaking. The seventh function is **insinuation of favor**. The bilingual speaker switches languages to emphasize the need for something or to ask for a favor.

Attention grabber or emphasis is the eighth function is used when the bilingual speaker switches languages in order to deliberately grab his or her audience's attention or to place particular emphasis on a certain word or phrase. The next function is **repetition or clarification**. The bilingual speaker repeats a word or phrase in the other language to promote emphasis and a greater comprehension among his or her listeners. Then the tenth is **narration or quoting** function. The bilingual speaker switches languages when relating either a narrative description or an actual quote to his or her audience.

The eleventh function is **topic change**. The bilingual speaker deliberately switches languages in order to change the topic of discussion. **Elaboration or expansion** is the twelfth function. The bilingual speaker switches languages to add additional details to a story that he or she is relating to his or her audience. The thirteenth function is **agreement or support**. The bilingual speaker switches languages in order to convey agreement, approval or support. The next function is **disagreement or contradiction**. The bilingual speaker switches languages in order to express disagreement or contradiction.

The fourteenth function is **question or challenge**. The bilingual speaker switches languages to ask a question or to challenge his/her audience, thus probing them for more information. The next function is **insult**. The bilingual speaker switches languages to insult or put down or make fun of his or her listener. The sixteenth function is **surprise or astonishment**. The bilingual speaker switches languages when surprised or astonished about something. Then, the next function is **apology**. The bilingual speaker switches languages to express a sincere apology.

There is a function of **exaggeration** which is used when the bilingual speaker switches languages to exaggerate a point. The next function is **sincerity**. The bilingual speaker switches languages to convey a moment of true sincerity. Then, when the bilingual speaker switches languages to either evoke sympathy from his or her listeners or to show an understanding, he or she uses a **sympathy** function. The next function is **boasting**. The bilingual speaker switches languages to brag or boast about him or herself with pride. The last function is **tag**. The bilingual speaker switches languages to add a filler or tag.

1.3 Questions of the Study

This study investigates the appearances of code switching in a novel entitled *Being 20 Something is Hard*. The research problems are formulated in the following questions:

1. What types of code switching are produced by the characters in the novel *Being 20 Something is Hard*?
2. What are the functions of code switching that are produced by characters in the novel *Being 20 Something is Hard*?

1.4 Aims of the Study

Based on the research questions mentioned above, this study aims to discover the following issues:

1. The types of code switching produced by the characters in the novel *Being 20 Something is Hard*.
2. The functions of code switching are conducted by the characters in the novel *Being 20 Something is Hard*.

1.5 Significance of the Study

Conducting this research, I hope that this study could give readers some insights on code switching expressions regarding to the types and functions of code switching in the *Being 20 Something is Hard*. Thus, after the readers understand enough to the phenomenon, they can be responsive in the occurrence of the code switching terminology in their real life. Moreover, I also expect to open more opportunities for other students to broaden their insight concerning to the code switching as a sociolinguistic phenomenon.

1.6 Scope of the Study

In this study, I exclude psycholinguistic phenomena. The study is limited to sociolinguistics, particularly on the study of code switching. In this area, I am able to explain the when and why bilinguals may use code switching in their speech. It does not, however, explain how code switching is processed.

1.7 Methodology of the Study

The method of this study is descriptive qualitative. In accordance to Gay (1987: 189) statement “descriptive research determines and reports the way the things are”, this study illustrates the nature of the situation as it exists at the time of the study. This study is qualitative as all the data collection is in the form of descriptions. The sources of data in this study were utterances spoken by the main character in novel *Being 20 Something is Hard*. Each of the utterance, firstly, was analyzed in terms of its types according to the theory by Poplack (1980), and then the code switching occurrences were classified based on their functions.

1.8 Clarification of Terms

1. Bilingual: A person who has some functional ability in the second language. (Spolsky, 1998: 45)
2. Code switching: The use of more than one language by two people engaged in a speech act. (Poplack, 1980; Lipski, 1985; Gonzales-Velásquez, 1995; Myusken, 2000)
3. Intrasentential switching: It involves a shift in language in the middle of a sentence, usually performed without pause, interruption or hesitation. (Zirker, 2007:11)
4. Intersentential switching: A shift in language in the middle of a sentence, usually performed without pause, interruption, or hesitation. (Zirker, 2007:10)
5. Tag switching: It involves the insertion of a tag in one language into an utterance which is otherwise entirely in the other language. (Abdul Hakim Yassi)

1.9 Paper Organization

The paper of this research is organized into three chapters:

Chapter 1 Introduction

This chapter consists of background, theoretical framework, research questions, aims of the research, significance of the research, scope of the research, research methodology, clarification of terms, and paper organization.

Chapter 2 Findings and Discussions

This chapter contains the findings of the research and the results of the analysis. The results include identification of the types of code switching, and concluding the reasons of the code switching occurrences.

Chapter 3 Conclusions and Suggestions

This chapter provides conclusions of the research and suggestions for further research.