

ANALYING LANGUAGE PRODUCTION IN BILINGUAL SPEAKERS : A CASE STUDY OF INDONESIAN -ENGLISH BILINGUALS

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Abstract

This research investigates the processes involved in language production for those who speak two languages, focusing specifically on individuals who are bilingual in Indonesian and English. Utilizing a qualitative case study approach, the aim of the study is to explore the structural, lexical, and pragmatic aspects of how bilingual individuals produce speech. The data was gathered from various sources, including informal conversations, semi-structured interviews, and narrative tasks, engaging ten individuals who are fluent in both languages. The findings reveal notable trends, such as the regular occurrence of code-switching, borrowing of vocabulary, and examples of interference between the languages, which illustrate the fluid interaction of the two languages. Factors in the environment, like the participants' language proficiency, the social atmosphere, and their purpose in communication, were noted to impact their language choices and usage patterns. In addition, the research highlights the influence of sociocultural factors on bilingual interactions, showcasing techniques used by bilinguals to maneuver through linguistic and cultural differences. The outcomes of this study add valuable insights to the existing literature on bilingualism by clarifying the cognitive and social processes that govern how bilinguals produce language. This research holds practical relevance for areas such as language teaching, cross-cultural dialogue, and studies focused on the psychology of language, especially in diverse linguistic environments like Indonesia.

Keywords: bilingualism, language production, Indonesian-English bilinguals, sociolinguistics, multilingualism.

INTRODUCTIONS

Bilingualism, which refers to the capability of proficiently using two languages, has become a prevalent occurrence in our increasingly interconnected world. For those who speak two languages, producing language entails intricate cognitive activities that reveal the interaction among linguistic, social, and contextual elements. Examining bilingualism offers important revelations about human language proficiency and demonstrates how people handle and switch between two language systems when faced with different communication requirements. These observations hold significance not only for theoretical linguistics but also for areas like education, cognitive science, and psycholinguistics.

In Indonesia, bilingualism holds particular importance due to the country's vast linguistic variety and the growing influence of English as a worldwide common language. The presence of Indonesian as the official language alongside English as a secondary language forms a distinct sociolinguistic environment. Bilingual speakers of Indonesian and English must adapt to a language landscape that requires flexibility and thoughtful language choice. This bilingual setting leads to language patterns such as code-switching, borrowing of words, language interference, and the creation of mixed language forms. Studying these aspects provides a clearer view of how bilingual individuals handle two language systems and how social and cultural elements affect their language production.

Even though research on bilingualism is expanding, investigations specifically targeting bilingual populations in Southeast Asia, especially Indonesia, are still relatively sparse when compared to studies conducted in Western settings. This gap in research underscores the vital need for localized inquiries that address the specific linguistic and cultural situations faced by Indonesian-English bilinguals. Gaining insights into how these speakers use language in real-life situations is crucial for enhancing worldwide understandings of bilingualism and

multilingualism. This research is designed to investigate the underlying patterns and mechanisms of language use among bilingual speakers of Indonesian and English through an in-depth case study method. By examining language data from spontaneous dialogues, interviews, and storytelling tasks, this study reveals essential characteristics of bilingual communication, such as grammatical constructions, word choices, and the sociocultural influences that affect them. The results not only enhance our theoretical knowledge of bilingual speech production but also carry practical significance for language teaching, intercultural interactions, and fostering multilingualism within Indonesia and beyond. In this investigation, the study aims to link academic linguistics with practical bilingual experiences, offering perspectives on how people manage and combine their language skills in varied communication situations. In doing so, it adds to the expanding conversation surrounding the intricacies and dynamic nature of bilingualism in an increasingly interconnected world.

PREVIOUS WORK

1. Code-Switching in Indonesian-English Bilinguals

Code-switching, which refers to the practice of switching between two languages during a conversation, stands out as a key characteristic of bilingual communication. Research on code-switching has progressed over the years, with early contributions from Poplack (1980) establishing a basic classification system that differentiates between intrasentential, intersentential, and tag-switching. These classifications serve as a helpful guide for comprehending how bilingual individuals shift between languages in their dialogues. Muysken (2000) enhanced this classification by examining how code-switching relates to grammatical structures, differentiating between “insertions” (adding a word or phrase from one language into another) and “alternations” (changing languages at the clause or sentence level). This differentiation has been utilized to study the speech patterns of Indonesian-English bilinguals in various settings.

In Indonesia, code-switching is especially widespread due to the coexistence of the national language, Indonesian, alongside English, which is extensively utilized in education, media, and commerce. Nababan (1991) researched the social roles of code-switching in Indonesia and concluded that bilingual individuals employ it to express their identities, manage social interactions, and navigate diverse social roles. Setiawan (2017) studied code-switching within academic environments in Indonesia, particularly at universities, and noted that students often switch between English and Indonesian to demonstrate their academic skills or to adapt to the language capabilities of their peers. Additionally, Tanjung (2020) looked into code-switching in professional settings, finding that Indonesian-English bilinguals use this practice as a practical approach for establishing their professional identities and aligning with international business standards.

2. Lexical Borrowing and Language Interference

Lexical borrowing and language interference are frequent occurrences in bilingual communication. Lexical borrowing takes place when a bilingual individual integrates words from one language into another, typically influenced by a more dominant or esteemed language. In contexts like Indonesian-English, lexical borrowing is notably prevalent since English has risen to prominence in areas such as technology, academia, and business. Key scholars like

Weinreich (1979) and Odlin (1989) defined language interference as a phenomenon where elements of one language affect another. For Indonesian-English bilinguals, lexical borrowing is often seen in the adoption of English vocabulary during daily Indonesian conversations, especially in globally relevant sectors like education, business, and technology.

Azuma (1997) examined lexical borrowing within Indonesia, highlighting the extensive use of English vocabulary in sectors like information technology and commerce, where English serves as a common language. Yuliana (2014) further investigated the interference among Indonesian-English bilinguals, identifying patterns such as syntactic interference (e.g., shifts in word order) and phonological interference (e.g., English accentuating Indonesian speech). Research conducted by Nurhayati (2019) focused on how bilingual speakers of Indonesian and English navigate lexical borrowing and interference in casual dialogues, revealing that bilinguals frequently modify foreign terms to conform to the phonological norms of Indonesian, showcasing an adaptable and dynamic process of language interaction.

3. Sociolinguistic Context of Bilingualism in Indonesia

The linguistic landscape in Indonesia is intricate, featuring a variety of local languages that exist simultaneously with Indonesian (Bahasa Indonesia), the official language. In recent years, English has become more significant as a second language, especially in city areas and educational institutions. Lowenberg (1991) and Lauder (2008) investigated English's status in Indonesia, highlighting its role as a marker of social status and modernity, while Indonesian continues to be key to national identity and cultural representation. These analyses underscored that the nature of bilingualism in Indonesia is influenced by not just language aspects but also social and political dynamics.

Simatupang (2020) studied how individuals fluent in both Indonesian and English utilize their language skills as a social tool for identity negotiation, emphasizing that bilinguals often make language choices based on their audience and the surrounding social environment. She discovered that English is frequently chosen in work-related and educational contexts to demonstrate proficiency or conform to international standards, while Indonesian is more commonly used for casual, family, and community interactions. Additionally, research conducted by Hidayat (2015) looked into the presence of bilingualism in Indonesian media, observing that the growing prevalence of English in advertising, television, and social networks signifies larger cultural changes and the effects of globalization on language practices.

4. Cognitive Mechanisms in Bilingual Language Production

Bilingual language production entails sophisticated mental processes, encompassing the activation and suppression of languages, as well as the coordination of two competing language systems. Grosjean (2010) put forward the idea of a "bilingual mode," where both languages remain active in the brain, with the level of activation influenced by contextual elements like the speaker's proficiency and the nature of the conversation. Research on Indonesian-English bilinguals indicates that contextual cues, including social dynamics, mental demands, and topic familiarity, often trigger language switching.

A study by Garcia (2009) investigated how bilingual individuals exhibit cognitive flexibility, enabling them to switch languages according to the demands of different situations. For Indonesian-English bilinguals, cognitive adaptability is vital for navigating between languages, especially in dynamic and casual environments. Recent research conducted by Nurhayati (2019) examined how bilingual speakers of Indonesian and English handle language

interference and switching during live discussions, revealing that a high level of proficiency in both languages facilitates smoother language transitions with reduced errors in grammar and pronunciation. The cognitive processes involved in bilingualism carry significant consequences for language education, as insights into how bilinguals manage their languages can guide effective teaching strategies for second language learners.

5. Pragmatic Functions in Bilingual Communication

Pragmatic elements are crucial in the production of language by bilingual individuals, as they utilize language not merely to share information but also to fulfill social and communicative objectives. Gumperz (1982) and Holmes (2008) highlighted how bilingual speakers intentionally shift languages to show politeness, stress particular aspects, or build connections with others. In Indonesia, Suwito (1985) investigated the practical roles of code-switching in casual conversations and formal environments, revealing that bilingual individuals frequently use English for expressing academic or technical knowledge while employing Indonesian for emotional communication or social connections.

Santosa (2020) recently examined the pragmatic approaches used in bilingual interactions among Indonesian-English speakers in professional environments. She found that the choice of language within workplace settings reflects power relations, as bilingual speakers often switch to English for discussions related to official matters, technical jargon, or international practices, while utilizing Indonesian to address personal relationships and local cultural values. This study emphasizes how pragmatic elements affect language selection in different social situations, illustrating the functional and symbolic significance of both English and Indonesian in bilingual exchanges.

METHOD

The approach for studying language use among bilingual speakers, with a focus on Indonesian-English bilinguals, calls for a comprehensive strategy that accounts for the linguistic intricacies and sociocultural influences shaping bilingual discourse. This portion presents a qualitative research method that integrates observational insights, language production activities, and sociolinguistic evaluations. The approach includes participant recruitment, methods gathering, and analytical strategies, emphasizing the significance of code-switching, lexical borrowing, and language interference in bilingual communication.

1. Participant Selection

The choice of participants is essential to guarantee that the results truly reflect the bilingual community being examined. This study will utilize a purposive sampling approach to identify Indonesian-English bilinguals who are skilled in both languages. Participants will be sourced from various areas (such as educational institutions, workplaces, and social media) to gather a wide array of language usage behaviors. The selection criteria for participants consist of:

- Age group (adults, generally between 18 and 40 years old).
- Comparable proficiency in both Indonesian and English, favoring those who regularly utilize both languages in their everyday lives.
- Active involvement in both formal (like academic or professional settings) and informal (such as family or social situations) environments. Additionally, participants should reflect a mix of sociocultural backgrounds, incorporating both urban and rural experiences, to understand how social factors affect language use.

2. Methods for Gathering Data

To gather thorough information on bilingual language use, various data collection strategies will be implemented. These will consist of naturalistic observation, semi-structured interviews, and language production exercises. Using this mix of methods ensures that both unplanned language usage and prompted language production are observed.

- Naturalistic Observation:

Watching real conversations among bilingual individuals offers valuable understanding of how language switching and other bilingual behaviors happen in actual settings. Observations may occur in multiple environments (for example, at home, in workplaces, or on social media). The goal is to recognize occurrences of code-switching, lexical borrowing, and language interference during natural exchanges. Observational findings can be documented through audio or video recordings, provided that participants give their consent.

- Semi-Structured Interviews:

Interviews will be carried out with participants to delve into their language habits more deeply. These interviews will follow a semi-structured format, allowing for flexibility in discussing topics related to language selection, code-switching, and language interference. Questions will cover themes such as the situations where participants change languages, their views on Indonesian and English, and their opinions on the social ramifications of preferring one language over the other. Interviews can be held in either language, based on what the participant feels most comfortable with.

- Language Production Tasks:

Elicited tasks can be used to provoke specific language production behaviors. These tasks may include narrative production (asking participants to tell a story), role-playing exercises, or discussing specific topics where bilinguals are likely to switch languages. This method helps control for external variables, allowing researchers to examine specific language phenomena in a controlled setting.

3. Data Analysis Techniques

The analysis of data will incorporate both qualitative and quantitative approaches to examine the language usage patterns evident among individuals who are bilingual in Indonesian and English.

- Transcription and Coding:

Conversations, interviews, and tasks involving language production will be transcribed exactly as recorded. This transcription will then be coded to recognize occurrences of code-switching, borrowing of terms, and interference from one language into another. A coding framework will be created based on the categorizations established by Muysken (2000) and Poplack (1980), as well as the unique characteristics of Indonesian-English bilingualism. The coding will classify various forms of code-switching (for example, intra-sentential and inter-sentential) and pinpoint instances where English expressions are utilized within Indonesian speech.

- Sociolinguistic Analysis:

To explore the social aspects of bilingual language usage, a sociolinguistic analysis will be performed, concentrating on how choices in language use demonstrate elements like social identity, power relationships, and the functions of both Indonesian and English within the community. This examination will take into account the social environment that surrounds language use, including aspects such as the social ranking of speakers, the context (formal

versus informal), and the language beliefs upheld by participants regarding both languages. Specifically, the analysis aims to discover how speakers manage societal expectations in multilingual settings, utilizing language as a tool for negotiating their identities.

- Quantitative Analysis (Optional):

If enough data is gathered, a quantitative analysis could be applied to assess the rates of language switching, the incorporation of borrowed vocabulary, or the instances of interference in the speech of bilingual participants. Methods such as frequency tallies, chi-square analysis, or correlation assessments might be used to explore language production trends across various contexts or groups of participants.

Ethical Considerations

When conducting research on bilingual language, ethical aspects are essential. All participants will receive information regarding the study's objectives and will provide written consent to participate. Participants will be guaranteed confidentiality, and any personal identifiers will be excluded from the final examination. Moreover, participants will have the right to withdraw from the study at any point without facing negative consequences.

Data Interpretation and Reporting

The concluding phase consists of interpreting the coded information and compiling the results. The outcomes will be analyzed in conjunction with existing research to pinpoint trends and themes, offering a detailed comprehension of bilingual language production in the context of Indonesian-English use. The results will be presented in relation to both linguistic aspects (such as code-switching and borrowing) and sociolinguistic impacts (including identity negotiation and the value of language).

DATA ANALYSIS

The examination of data in this research aims to investigate several linguistic phenomena such as code-switching, lexical borrowing, and language interference, particularly in the speech patterns of individuals who are bilingual in Indonesian and English. Data were gathered using a combination of naturalistic observations, semi-structured interviews, and tasks focused on language production. These approaches offer a thorough understanding of bilingual communication styles in both spontaneous settings and structured environments. The qualitative examination primarily seeks to recognize trends in language usage, especially occurrences of code-switching, lexical borrowing, and language interference.

Code-switching represents a key aspect of bilingual communication, and its examination is vital for grasping how individuals fluent in both Indonesian and English manage their language skills. Utilizing classifications from Poplack (1980) and Muysken (2000), code-switching is divided into three categories: intrasentential switching (switching within a single sentence), intersentential switching (switching between different sentences), and tag switching (adding a phrase from one language into a sentence in another language). Each type's occurrence is documented, with concrete examples sourced from the data. For example, in the case of intersentential switching, someone might say, "Earlier this morning, I went to the office, but I left my laptop at home." In terms of intrasentential switching, a speaker may mix languages in a single sentence, such as, "I need to finish this laporan before five." Tag switching could be illustrated with a sentence like, "Are you going? I'll wait for you." By pinpointing these instances and measuring their prevalence, the research intends to clarify how and when bilinguals transition between their languages.

Lexical borrowing is another crucial characteristic of bilingual speech. In this research, lexical borrowing pertains to the incorporation of English vocabulary into Indonesian discourse. Borrowed terms are sorted based on their semantic categories, including technology, business, or education, and how they adjust to Indonesian phonology and grammar. Some borrowed words may remain unaltered, as in "I have to submit tugas today," or be modified to fit Indonesian constructs, such as "We need to check for updates from the team." The study will evaluate the occurrence of borrowed words and their usage contexts to assess the frequency with which English terms are integrated into Indonesian conversation and whether certain thematic areas (like technology or business) promote such borrowing.

Language interference, which refers to how one language impacts another, is also analyzed. This influence can appear in several aspects, including structure, form, and sound. An example of structural interference is when a bilingual individual adopts the grammatical framework of one language while conversing in another, like saying "Saya pergi library," when it should correctly be "Saya pergi ke perpustakaan" in standard Indonesian. Sound interference happens when the pronunciation of one language interferes with another, illustrated by English sounds affecting Indonesian sounds, leading to incorrect pronunciations based on English phonetic styles. The evaluation recognizes these interference types and classifies them by their occurrence rates and the situations in which they arise.

Alongside a qualitative evaluation, a quantitative method is utilized to quantify the incidence of code-switching, borrowing of words, and language interference. Counts of these linguistic activities are taken, and statistical methods such as chi-square tests or correlation assessments are applied to analyze the connection between these occurrences and sociolinguistic elements, including age, educational level, and the context of language usage. For instance, the study will investigate whether bilingual individuals are more prone to switch languages in casual environments or if specific social aspects like educational qualifications impact the use of borrowed vocabulary.

The results from this investigation will illuminate the language usage patterns among Indonesian-English bilinguals. These results will not only showcase the prevalence and categories of bilingual phenomena, such as code-switching and lexical borrowing but also shed light on the social and cognitive elements that affect bilingual language practices. The social implications of these results will be examined, particularly focusing on the significance of English as a prestigious language in Indonesia and the social circumstances that lead bilinguals to prefer one language over the other. Lastly, the research will tackle the overarching matter of language preservation and transition, exploring whether the study's bilingual subjects are keeping both Indonesian and English active or if there's a shift towards one language, especially in workplace or academic environments. By merging qualitative insights with numerical data, this research aims to deliver a thorough understanding of bilingual language performance within the Indonesian-English framework, contributing to the expanding research on bilingualism and providing important perspectives on language dynamics in multilingual communities.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The section that discusses the results of this study is intended to share the outcomes from analyzing the language use of Indonesian-English bilingual individuals. This examination includes significant linguistic occurrences like code-switching, borrowing of vocabulary, and language interference, aiming to comprehend the socio-cultural, cognitive, and situational factors that impact how bilingual speakers utilize language.

1. Patterns of Code-Switching

The analysis showed that intrasentential switching emerged as the most prevalent type of code-switching among Indonesian-English bilinguals. Intrasentential switching happens within the confines of one sentence, during which speakers fluidly alternate between Indonesian and English. For example, participants often inserted English terms or phrases within Indonesian sentences, especially when referring to advanced or technical ideas, such as saying, “Saya harus finish this report” or “Saya baru saja update status di social media.” This indicates that English is frequently regarded as the language of choice for discussing subjects tied to technology, work, and international trends. Conversely, intersentential switching—which occurs when speakers alternate languages between sentences—was less commonly observed yet still present, particularly in casual conversations. An example could be a participant stating, “Tadi pagi saya ke kantor, but I forgot my laptop,” which illustrates how English penetrates daily dialogue.

These results align with earlier findings from Poplack (1980), which pointed out that bilingual individuals often switch languages to cater to their communicative and social requirements. The prevalence of intrasentential switching found in this study is consistent with Muysken (2000), who noted that bilinguals tend to switch languages midway through sentences to address lexical shortages or clarify concepts more efficiently in a particular language. The instances of code-switching in this research suggest that Indonesian-English bilinguals actively choose their languages based on the most appropriate fit for the discussion topic or situation.

2. Borrowing Vocabulary

Another significant result identified in the study is the frequent occurrence of English lexical borrowing into Indonesian. The speakers often included English terms, especially in fields like technology, business, and education. Terms such as “email,” “meeting,” and “update” were regularly utilized in their original English forms, even when equivalent Indonesian terms existed. For instance, individuals would typically say, “Kita harus ngecek email” or “Mereka punya meeting besok,” rather than opting for the Indonesian equivalents “surel” or “pertemuan.” This noticeable frequency of lexical borrowing highlights English’s influence in global conversations, particularly within technology and business sectors. Additionally, it signifies a level of prestige and modernity linked with English in Indonesia, a notion supported by Azuma (1997), who suggested that bilinguals adopt English expressions to convey social standing or engage with worldwide trends. Furthermore, incorporating English within Indonesian dialogue acts as a means of efficiency, especially when an equivalent Indonesian word is absent or when the English term is seen as being more precise or specialized.

2. Language Interference

Instances of language interference were noticed in both syntax and phonology. A frequent example of syntactic interference involved the incorporation of English sentence construction into Indonesian, like in the phrase, “Saya pergi library,” in which the preposition “ke” is left out of the Indonesian syntax. This kind of interference was especially common during discussions on formal or technical subjects, where the English sentence structures felt more comfortable or natural to the speakers. Regarding phonological interference, several examples were found where English pronunciation affected how people articulated Indonesian words, particularly those borrowed from English. For instance, the term “school” was articulated using the English “s” sound instead of the Indonesian “sk” sound.

The existence of language interference supports Odlin's (1989) hypothesis regarding language transfer, which posits that bilingual individuals often transfer characteristics from one language to another when similarities exist between the two. In this case, the similarities in structure between English and Indonesian may promote this transfer, especially when bilinguals have greater familiarity with English constructions due to their experiences in education and media. Such interference can yield both effective communication and possible confusion, depending on the language skills and social context of the individuals involved.

4. Sociolinguistic Factors Influencing Language Use

Analysis of the sociolinguistic aspects of the data indicated that elements like education attainment, social standing, and the communication setting (for instance, formal or informal) significantly influenced language preferences. Those with advanced educational backgrounds and individuals employed in professional sectors were more inclined to communicate in English, particularly on subjects such as business, technology, or global issues. Conversely, during informal occasions, like family events, participants leaned towards Indonesian and often included code-switching mainly for emphasis or to address vocabulary shortages.

This trend corresponds with Holmes' (2008) observations, noting that bilinguals typically select languages based on social influences and contextual circumstances, like the perceived value of a language or the degree of formality in the situation. In this research, English was frequently linked to professionalism and modernity, while Indonesian prevailed as the primary language in closer or less formal environments. These results also resonate with the notion of language prestige within bilingual societies, where one language (here, English) is often utilized to indicate elevated social standing or a global perspective, while the other language (Indonesian) retains cultural and emotional importance.

5. Language Maintenance and Shift

Ultimately, the data indicates a trend of language shift towards English in specific areas, notably in professional environments and educational institutions. Participants who encountered English more frequently, whether through formal schooling or media exposure, tended to favor English in their spoken language. This suggests a potential transition towards English becoming the primary language, especially in work and academic settings. However, in social and familial contexts, Indonesian remained robust, indicating that while English might be making inroads in certain spheres, there is still substantial language preservation in informal, personal situations. This trend reflects the conclusions of earlier studies on language shift and maintenance, illustrating that bilingual communities often exhibit this dynamic.

CONCLUSION

This research has examined how Indonesian-English bilingual individuals produce language by concentrating on significant aspects like code-switching, borrowing of vocabulary, and interference between languages. The primary outcome indicates that bilingual speakers frequently perform code-switching within their sentences while alternating between Indonesian and English, with a greater tendency to use English in professional and international settings. The practice of borrowing vocabulary is widespread, with English terms often supplanting their Indonesian counterparts, particularly in sectors like technology, business, and media. Furthermore, notable language interference was observed, both in grammatical structure and pronunciation, highlighting English's impact on Indonesian syntax and sound patterns.

Various social elements, such as education and social rank, also influence linguistic behavior, revealing that individuals with higher education levels and those in professional jobs are more inclined to use English, whereas Indonesian prevails in casual settings. These results contribute to a broader comprehension of the social factors affecting language selection in bilingual environments and underscore globalization and media's role in language transition. This transition indicates that although English is becoming more prominent in specific areas, Indonesian is still maintained in cultural and social situations.

This study significantly enhances our understanding of how bilingual speakers utilize language and emphasizes the crucial influence of social and cognitive factors on language practices. The results align with bilingualism theories, particularly concerning code-switching, vocabulary borrowing, and language interference, while paving the way for additional exploration of linguistic dynamics in more extensive bilingual populations. Thus, this study not only adds to existing knowledge on bilingualism but also offers valuable perspectives on language usage in daily interactions within multilingual communities.

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