

Register Journal UNIMED- Vol 13, No 1 (2024), pp. 48-55. <u>https://ejournal.unimed.ac.id/index.php/register/article/view/</u> P-ISSN: 2301-5233; E-ISSN: 2655-9854

Code Switching In Twitter Of Alexander Thian : A Synactic Analysis

¹Gabriella Mauretania Silalahi¹, ²Morada Tetty¹

English Language and Literature Department, Medan State University, INDONESIA

ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT		
Article history:	This thesis analyses the types, the use, and the reason why Code-		
Received	switching are used in Alexander Thian on his tweets. This study used Poplack and Hoffman's theory in order to answer the		
Accepted	problems and used a descriptive qualitative method to analyze. There are three types in Poplack Theory and seven reasons why		
Keywords:	code-switching used in Hoffman Theory. The source of data is		
Tweet	Twitter and there are 50 tweets found as the data. Those tweets in Alexander Thian's twitter were examined to categorize them		
Alexander Thian	into distinct categories. This study found that Alexander Thian		
Twitter	uses three types of code-switching in his twitter account, namely tag-switching (4%), inter-sentential switching (42%), and intra-		
Code-Switching	sentential switching (54%). While for the reasons, the Code switching were mostly used in talking about particular topic twenty-six tweets (52%), quoting somebody else six tweets (12%), being emphatic about something ten tweets (20%), interjection four tweets (8%), intention of clarifying the speech content two tweets (4%), and expressing group identity two tweets (4%).		

Correspondence:

Gabriella Mauretania Silalahi and Morada Tetty

O O O This is an open-access article under the <u>CC-BY-SA</u> international license.

INTRODUCTION

Language is a communication tool in the form of a symbol system produced by humans and as a tool for interacting with the environment around us (Wardaugh, 1984). Without language, it is impossible for us to be able to interact with each other because language is a source for creating human interaction with other people which is also a symbol of a nation or tribe and is one of the characteristics of a nation or tribe so that people can recognize a nation or tribe through language.

Language is not only means of communicating an object, but also building and maintaining relationships with other people (Trudgill, 1974). The existence of regional variations can be seen in everyday life can also be manifested in the form of text or writing, which is shown through television, newspaper, and some of them through cyberspace or what we are often familiar with on the internet such as Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, TikTok, and Twitter.

Twitter is a website, owned, and operated by Twitter Inc, which offers microblogging social network that enables users to send and read messages called statues or tweets. On twitter media, it is also common to find users who use more than one language or what we often known a bilingual. We can also encounter codeswitching in our daily lives both orally and in writing.

We can see this code-switching phenomenon on the twitter account of one of the well-known influencers in Indonesia, Alexander Thian. The influencer who is often called Lex is also a scriptwriter and also a Travel blogger. He often uploads his travelling photos or just writes a status on his twitter account by using code switching in two languages, namely Indonesian and English in both formal and non-formal language.



Figure 1.1 Preliminary Data from one of @aMrazing's tweet

In the tweet above, the type of code switching above is Tag-switching because the user inserted a tag word *is it good*? at the end of the sentence after using Indonesian. The user tends to use English Language at the end of the sentence rather than complete all the sentence by using Indonesian language.

The scope of the study is focuses on code-switching used in Alexander Thian's

Twitter, in order to identify the types, how they are used, and also the reasons using Poplack (1995) and Hoffman (1991) theory.

The significances of the research in theoretically to enrich understanding of syntactic studies of code-switching especially in twitter. Practically, the findings can be used as a reference for research and in order to preserve the use of language in society, and apply it according to the speaker's environment properly and correctly.

METHOD

The descriptive qualitative method was used in this study. Sugiono (2009) states that descriptive qualitative method is a research method that used to search the object in natural setting which is the researcher is a key instrument, getting sampling by purposive, data were analyse qualitatively and the result of the research generally about language and meaning. Qualitative research encompasses description and overview rather than, say, counting features; in other words, this research does not employ statistical procedures. Words, sentences, utterances, images, photos, and memos are examples of descriptive data in qualitative research. The utterances were use as the data in this case.

FINDINGS

After identifying the data, the researcher analyzed the Alexander Thian's tweets by using the theory of Poplack and Hoffman. The researcher found there were three types of code-switching used by Alexander Thian. They were Tag-switching, inter-sentential switching, and intra-sentential switching.

1. Types of Code-Switching use in Alexander Thian's Twitter Account

No	Types of Code Switching	Frequency	Percentage
1	Tag-Switching	2	4%
2	Inter-Sentential	21	42%
3	Intra-Sentential	27	54%
Total		50	100%

Code switching, or a mixture of two languages or codes within an element, sentence, or discourse, is a prevalent and everyday occurrence in society (Poplack 1995).

Table 4.1 The percentages of the types of Code-switching used in Alexander Thian's Twitter Account

According to the table, three different types of code switching were used in Alexander Thian's twitter account. Tag-switching was used in 2 tweets (4%), Inter-sentential in 21 tweets (42%), and Intra-sentential in 27 tweets (54%). The total numbers of Alexander Thian's tweet were 50 tweets. According to the table, Alexander Thian employs Intra-sentential switching more frequently in his Tweets.

2. The Code Switching used in Alexander Thian's Twitter Account

a. Tag Switching

Tag-switching occurs when an exclamation or a tag in one language is inserted into an utterance that's otherwise entirely in another language.



Figure 4. 1 Screenshot tweet on @aMrazing's tweet

Tag-switching is a type of code switching from a sentence where the user uses an expression from one language "*excuse you*" in English and tags it into a sentence primarily in Indonesian. The user started the sentences with English language and continue with Indonesian language. A complex sentence appears in the tweet. "*excuse you*" is a **subordinate clause** and "Skechers ada sepatu gaul yang modelnya keren dan warna warni tapi tetap nyaman luar biasa"is a **main clause**.

Excuse you skechers ada sepatu 'gaul' yang modelnya keren dan S P O warna warni tapi tetap nyaman luar biasa

b. Inter-sentential Switching

Inter-sentential switching, according to Poplack (1995), deals with a switch at a clause or phrase boundary, when each clause or phrase is in one language or another.



Figure 4. 2 Screenshot tweet on @aMrazing's tweet

The user involves a large amount of syntactic complexity in the form of sentences. Because of that, the type of code switching above is inter-sentential switching. The sentence began with an English sentence and was followed by Indonesian sentence. Inter-sentential switching can be found in sentence "*Had the best time in Padang*". The user uses English language to expressing that he had a great time in Padang. In terms of syntax, the tweet appears to be a simple sentence although the tweet has three sentences. Each sentence stands alone as complete element.

c. Intra-sentential Switching

Intra-sentential switching refers to switch that occurs in the middle of sentence which includes elements from both languages within the same clause or sentence.

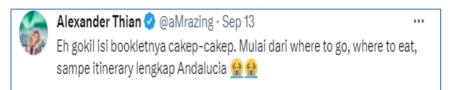


Figure 4. 3 Screenshot tweet on @aMrazing's tweet

The tweets above was categorized as Intra-sentential switching because the used of some word in English language between Indonesian language. The context of the tweet is about the user went to Spain and he saw Andalucia booklet. The user find that the booklet is so interesting because the booklet contains a complete information about Andalucia that can help him, which is Andalucia will be his next destination. Utterance "booklet, where to go, where to eat, itinerary" can be translated into Indonesian, but the user used English instead on his tweet. In terms of syntax, the tweet appears to be a compound sentence because the tweet consists of independent and subordinate clauses. "eh gokil isi bookletnya cakep-cakep" is a **main clause** and "where to go, where to eat, sampe itinerary lengkap" is a **subordinate clause**.

Eh gokil isi bookletnya cakep-cakep.mulai dari where to go, whereAdjPO(Noun)PO(Noun)to ear, sampe itinerary lengkap Andalucia.O(Noun)O(Noun)

No	Reason	Frequency	Percentage
1	Talking about Particular Topic	26	52%
2	Quoting Somebody Else	6	12%
3	Being Emphatic about Something	10	20%
4	Interjection	4	8%
5	Repetition	0	0%
6	Intention of Clarifying the Speech Content	2	4%
7	Expressing Group Identity	2	4%
Total		50	100%

3. The Reason why Code Switching Used as They Are

Table 4.2 The percentages of the reason why Code-switching used in Alexander Thian's Twitter Account

There are six from seven reason used code switching that Alexander Thian used in his tweets, the code switching mostly used on talking about particular topic twenty-six tweets (52%), quoting somebody else six tweets (12%), being emphatic about something ten tweets (20%), interjection four tweets (8%), intention of clarifying the speech content two tweets (4%), and expressing group identity two tweets (4%).

DISCUSSION

After the data been analyzed, the objective of this part was to give explanation on the study problems. In this discussion, three research questions should be addressed. First, to categorized the types of code switching used in Alexander Thian's tweet. Second, to investigate how code switching is used in Alexander Thian's tweet. And the third, to explain the reason why the code switching used as they are. The discussion was based on Poplack (1995) and Hoffman (1991).

In comparison with earlier studies by Lusiana Kartika Chandra (2018), the problem is the same but use different theory. The research by Lusiana Kartika Chandra (2018) used Hoffman theory for the types of code switching and Holmes for the reason why of using code switching. Based on the analysis, there are four types of code switching occurred. Those are, intra-sentential switching, inter-sentential switching, establishing continuity switching, and emblematic switching. Then, there are seven reasons why of using code switching namely, assert power, pride and status, to declare the solidarity, to express ethnic identity, to express self-emotion, to being more competence, to being more informative and to convey the speaker's attitude to the listener. The differences between Lusiana Kartika Chandra's research and this study is that the data collected is on Twitter, while Lusiana Kartika Chandra's is on novel. Subsequently, this study provides a more thorough explanation of code switching's application in different theory.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. This study discussed about to categorized the types of code switching used in Alexander Thian's tweet, to investigate how code switching is used in Alexander Thian's tweet, and to explain the reason why the code switching used in Alexander Thian's Twitter account as they are. The data were collected from Alexander Thian twitter account. Then, the researcher categorized the data and classified based on each type. There were three types of code switching based on Poplack (1995) theory and those are, Tag-switching, Inter-sentential switching, and Intra-sentential switching.
- 2. The use of code switching is different for each type, in tag-switching, the user used short expression. The user used an expression from one language and tags it into a sentence primarily in Indonesian. In inter-sentential switching, the user involves a large amount of syntactic complexity in the form of sentences. In intra-sentential switching, the user used of some word in English language between Indonesian language.
- 3. The researcher found six from seven reason using code switching that Alexander Thian used in tweets, the code switching mostly used on talking about particular topic, quoting somebody else, being emphatic about something, interjection, intention of clarifying the speech content, and expressing group identity.

SUGGESTIONS

1. For English department students, student of English Literature in particular are proficient at analyzing various forms of code-switching that occur through both

direct and indirect interactions, such as those on social media or the internet.

2. For the reader, it can serve as a source of additional data for different research doing code-switching study in the future.

REFERENCES

Bloomfield, L. (1995). Language. Newyork: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston Inc.

- Brice, A. (2000). *Code Switching and Code Mixing in the ESL Classroom: A Study of Pragmatic and Syntactic Features*. Advances in Speech Language Pathology, Vol 2
- Cakrawati, A. (2011). Analysis of Code Switching and Code Mixing in The Teenlit Cantiq Cantiq.
- Dewi, H. C. (2021). *Code-Switching Used By Indonesian Celebrities*. Vol 13 No 3, 222-230. doi:10.30998/deiksis.v13i3.8669

Haewoon, K. (2010). What is Twitter, Social Network or Mass Media.

- Hendar, M. T. (2022). *Code Switching in Twitter Jerome Polin*. Humanities and Social Science, Vol 5 No 3, 18620-18626.
- Hoffman. (1991). An Introduction to Bilingualism. Newyork: Longman.
- Holmes, J. (1992). A Introduction to Sociolinguistics. London: Longman Group UK Limited.
- Larasati, C., Sukmaningrum, R. (2020). *The Analysis of Code Switching Used by Maudy Ayunda in Catatan Najwa YouTube Channel.*

Meisuri, R. D. (2014). Code Switching Social Media in Twitter. Vol 3 No 2.

Novianti, W. (2013). *The Use of Code Switching in Twitter (A Case Study in English Education Department).* Vol 1

Romaine. (1995). Bilingualism. UK: Blackwell.

- Sahib, H. (2021). Syntactic Configuration of Code-Switching between Indonesian and English: Another Perspective on Code-Switching Phenomena. Education Research International.
- Wardaugh, R. (2006). An Introduction to Sociolinguistic Fifth Edition. UK: Blackwell Publishing.
- Wibowo, A. I. (2017). Analysis of The Types Code Switching and Code Mixing by The Sixth President of Republic Indonesia's Speech at National Independence Day. Progressive.

Woolford, E. (1983). Bilingual Code-Switching and Syntactic Theory. Vo