

**CODE-SWITCHING IN BLOGS OF OLDER AND YOUNGER
MALAYSIAN CHINESE**

ANGELINA WONG LI WEI

**FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA
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ANGELINA WONG LI WEI

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ABSTRACT

Code-switching is a common occurrence in a multilingual country like Malaysia. Over the years, researches have been conducted to study oral code-switching in multilingual societies. However, the emergence of weblogs or better known as blogs is changing the way people interact over the Internet. Code-switching is noted to take place in online emails, journals, chatrooms, emails and also blogs. This study aims to investigate the domains in which code-switching takes place more often can be discovered as well as the similarities and differences in the writing of blogs between two age groups (older and younger) of Malaysian Chinese female bloggers. Data was collected over the period of one month and analyzed to identify the differences and similarities in the styles and patterns throughout August 2010. The frequency of which code-switching took place in their entries were tabulated and further discussed for better understanding. Reasons that triggered these code-switchings were identified. The findings of the study proved that Fishman's (1972) findings on topics of code-switching also occur in blogs. Furthermore, the result did show vast differences between the styles and patterns used by these two groups of bloggers.

ABSTRAK

Penukaran kod adalah suatu fenomena yang biasa dalam sebuah negara berbilang bangsa seperti Malaysia. Walaupun penyelidikan dalam bidang penukaran kod secara lisan telah pun hadir di Malaysia, akan tetapi, kajian mengenai penukaran kod bertulis dalam blog adalah kurang. Kebelakangan ini, penukaran kod bertulis melalui internet telah mendapat perhatian dari ramai penyelidik tempatan kerana penukaran kod bertulis merupakan topik baru dalam bidang linguistik. Kajian ini bertujuan untuk menyiasat pengaruh topik terhadap penukaran kod di mana kekerapan dan frekuensi penukaran kod dalam topik-topik yang dibincangkan dapat diketahui. Dalam masa yang sama, persamaan dan perbezaan dalam gaya and stail penukaran kod antara kedua-dua kumpulan umur blogger-blogger wanita (tua dan muda) berbangsa Cina warganegara Malaysia juga telah dibincangkan di dalam kajian ini untuk tempoh masa satu bulan (Ogos 2010). Kemudian, frekuensi penukaran kod yang berlaku dalam entri blogger-blogger tersebut dianalisis. Di samping itu, sebab-sebab yang mempengaruhi penukaran kod dalam topik-topik yang berlainan juga dibincangkan. Keputusan penyelidikan berdasarkan data yang diperolehi telah membuktikan pendapat Fishman (1972) yang topik penukaran kod tidak hanya terkhusus kepada penukaran kod secara lisan tetapi ianya juga berlaku dalam penukaran kod bertulis. Tambahan pula, hasil penyelidikan telah menunjukkan perbezaan yang ketara antara gaya dan stail yang telah digunakan oleh kedua-dua kumpulan blogger.

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