

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on explaining the background of the study, the statements of research problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and the last is the scope and limitations of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Humans are social creatures which in their daily life need other humans to live a normal or supposed life. To be able to connect with other, they need tools or media that can connect them, one of which is language. Language is one of the most important media or tools in human life that serves to facilitate them in communicating or interacting. According to Silaban and Marpaung (2020) between humans and language cannot be separated, this is because language is a liaison between humans and other humans. As is the case in Indonesia, there are so many regional languages in it which they are then united by one language, namely Indonesian. With Indonesian language, people from different regions can interact or communicate with each other using Indonesian. It is supported by technological developments which makes it easier for them.

The existence of technological developments can make language mastery in society grow up. This includes Indonesia, which has a bilingual population. Many people can or even speak or understand foreign language such as English. This can be influenced by the environment, educational background, their job, or it could be due to learning through social media, such as YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and so on.

Social media could not only be used as a means of learning foreign language and connecting people, it is also a place for people to express and show their feelings, ideas, information, and whatever they want to share with others. Not only social media mentioned above, but also people often share various things

such as feelings, information, or just random things on their WhatsApp account. WhatsApp is one of the famous instant messengers that is simple and private. Sham et al., (2018) stated WhatsApp is presently leading instant messaging application globally after they success hit the target of one billion in their user base particularly among young adults. In Indonesia itself, WhatsApp became a very popular application in the world including Indonesia. In Indonesia, according to beritasatu.com WhatsApp is the second most popular social media after YouTube.

WhatsApp users can express and share various things in one of its features, namely the status or story feature, in this feature we can share photos, videos, or it can be in the form of words. In sharing their feelings, thoughts, etc., many of them use two different languages. It is related to a person's ability to master the language. Their ability to master the language may be influenced by the environment and people they meet in their daily live send their persistence in learning the language. This day, it is very easy or common to find people who use two languages even more when conveying their feelings, ideas, and thoughts. This is not only found in direct spoken conversations but also we meet a lot on social media including WhatsApp which could be in writing or spoken. In the researcher's own WhatsApp account, the researcher often encounters people who are connected to researcher herself on WhatsApp sharing statuses that use or mix two languages. Sometimes they use the regional language and mix it with Indonesian, and there are also those who use Indonesian mixed with foreign languages such as English. This phenomenon of using two or more languages in one utterance or conversation is known as code switching and code mixing.

From the two terms above, code mixing is the one we often encounter. Code mixing is about the use of two languages or more. Fanani et al. (2018) defines that “Code mixing is the use two languages or more by inserting one language elements into another language element in one utterance”. It means that in one utterance there is one language in which there are inserts in the form of elements from other languages, so that in one utterance there is a mixing of two

languages. This phenomena is often found in everyday communication, whether it is spoken or written forms.

Code mixing occurs when someone uses words or phrases from different language that are inserted into one language. Harya (2018) stated that in code mixing, bilingual speakers seem to apply some foreign words or phrases (pieces of one language smaller than clause) while the other language (code) functions as the base. Then, bilingual speakers are said to code mixing (but not switch from one to another) when there is no topic that changes, nor does the situation.

In addition, code mixing does not happen without reasons. Behind the creation of an utterance containing code mixing, there must be factors that influence it and the reasons of choosing the code mixing. This can be caused by social factors and situational factors. Social factors that often influence a person's use of language are usually education level, social status, etc., while situational factors that often influence are usually related to who is speaking, to whom he is speaking, what is being said, etc. (Raksang, 2019).

From the explanation above, in connection with technological developments that make it easier for humans to communicate with other humans, social media has a big role in connecting humans with other humans. With regard to language, in making status on WhatsApp, of course, it is closely related to the use of language from WhatsApp users. Since Indonesia is known as a multilingual country, it is very possible for WhatsApp users to use two or more languages when they create a status, be it the regional language and Indonesian or a foreign language they know or master.

The phenomenon that WhatsApp users frequently use code mixing in creating statuses, it is interesting to analyze the wayWhatsApp users who are connected to the researcher herself share and express their feelings, thoughts, information, or other things in their WhatsApp status by using code mixing. WhatsApp status is also a form of communication between the creator and the reader or viewer. Therefore, the use of the language they use, especially the use of code mixing must be closely related to the identity of the creator.

The reason of choosing Whatsapp status to be analyzed is because of the popularity of this application among the public and it has become a means of communication for most people. On the other hand, making statuses and viewing statuses on WhatsApp has become a very common thing for WhatsApp users. For this reason, it is necessary to analyze the use of WhatsApp users' languages, especially code switching and code mixing. But in this study only focuses on the analysis of code mixing that researcher found on WhatsApp Status. This is because researcher often find people related to the researcher herself using code mixing in their status. This is interesting because the people who are related to the researcher, in making statuses that contain elements of code-mixing have different backgrounds, both from their educational background and their area of origin. One example of the use of code mixing in whatsapp status is as follows:

“paket tak dikenal lagi isi sepatu + heels, pliss siapa yang kirim??? Makin bingung karena tiap hari dapat paket tanpa identitas pengirimnya alias Cuma nama olshop penjual barang”

(unknown package again containing shoes + heels, who sent it??? more confused because every day I get packages without the sender identity, only the name of the seller's olshop)

The example above is a sentence composed of Indonesian which is inserted by English words, namely heels and olshop which stands for online shop. The status maker uses the word heels to refer to the type of shoes that have heels. The word heels itself is already familiar to the public, and the way to say that stuff is also shorter than having to say *sepatu ber-hak*, likewise with the word olshop, which is familiar among the public, especially for people who like to shop online.

In addition, this research is important to study because it can increase the awareness and the knowledge for readers, especially those who have concerns about language, especially regarding the topic of code mixing which is closely related to bilingualism. So that the title “Analysis of code mixing in whatsapp status” is obtained.

1.2 Statements of the Research Problems

From the background of the study above, it is formulated the following research questions:

1. What types of code mixing are found in WhatsApp Status?
2. What are the reasons that influence WhatsApp users to use code mixing in creating status?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

From the research questions above, the objectives of the study are as follow:

1. To describe types of code mixing found on WhatsApp Status.
2. To explain reasons influencing WhatsApp users to use code mixing in creating status.

1.4 Significance of the Study

By conducting this research, it is hoped that this research can provide theoretical and practical significance.

1. Theoretically, it can be used as an additional reference for discussion of sociolinguistic studies, especially about code mixing phenomenon.
2. Practically, this study is expected to be useful as a means that can build reader awareness to establish better communication both in the community and on social media. Especially for students particularly students of English Department. Especially those who are interested in or focused on the field of language, in particular Sociolinguistics. This research is also expected to make easier for students to understand language variations, such as code mixing and code switching. So that they are more communicative and able to adapt language with the speaker. So, what they say can be understood by others. This research is also expected to contribute for students to improve their English. They can use code mixing to practice their English when they talk to their friends or when they write status and chat on social media. And for other researcher, this research is signified for stimulating the other researcher to conduct such as a kind of the research in the future.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This research is a sociolinguistics study focuses on analyzing the types of code mixing based on Muysken (2000) such as insertion, alternation and congruent lexicalization. To find out the reason why they used code mixing, the researcher uses the theory proposed by Hoffman (1991), to answer the second statement of the research problems. In this study the researcher will analyze the status posted by WhatsApp users who are connected to the researcher herself. The researcher will also analyze the reasons why WhatsApp users use code mixing in sharing status.