



MULTILINGUALISM

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Annotation

One of the basic principles of interpersonal contact in the world is language contact. Understanding the language and thoughts mediation vehicle has been subject to continuous development for decades. With the abolition of many frontiers, various limits and language barriers have been reduced. A more intense mixing of people naturally leads to a more intense mixing of languages. As such, we currently speak about the so-called multicultural society, a concept that has been gaining more and more attention. This of course is due to mutual interference of individual languages, particularly influencing the strong language by the not so strong language. Multilingualism has thus gradually become a natural trend in our globalized world and has probably been included as a natural part of social development among the logical circumstances.

Keywords: Multilingualism, languages, dictionary, bilingualism

Introduction

Multilingualism is known as a person's ability to speak more than one language, while, on the other hand, this term is used to mean the validity or widespread use of multiple languages in a society or in a state. The online version of the Duden dictionary mentions multilingualism only in connection with, which means the ability to speak several languages. The term polylingualism can be found as a synonym to the term multilingualism according to the Duden dictionary. Another name used for multilingualism is bilingualism. A nice definition of bilingualism is as follows: bilingualism is a specific case of multilingualism, which has no limit on the number of languages a speaker may know. According to von Bargen, this is characterized as a selective use of two or more languages by an individual.

The causes of bilingualism or multilingualism are different; there are often personal reasons, but there can also be social, socio-economic or even political reasons. One can question whether multilingualism or the second language serves a specific purpose in society. Today, bilingualism or multilingualism is already a natural part of interpersonal communication, because today's globalized world is based on a co-existence between socio-cultural facts and the true entities. Various types of





bilingualism have also been described and many studies and research in the field of children's language acquisition have been carried out, for example, Wendlandt's language pyramid (see Note 4). However, multilingualism has not always been welcome in history. In the 20th century, many European countries began to implement immigration policy (in particular Germany, where labourers were sought after the Second World War). As a result, this led to the influx of many migrants, who brought their own native languages with them. This especially affected countries that received strangers and foreigners. Therefore, bilingualism was initially held in rather low esteem because the nonnative speakers negatively impacted the development of intelligence quotas in Germany.

Under the concept of language contact phenomena, one can imagine a large number of resources that encourage the development of acts of communication. Multilingualism represents one of those aspects. All the aspects of language contact phenomena may be observed from the linguistic point of view, but also from the point of view of sociolinguistics or psycholinguistics. In this paper the linguistic and sociolinguistic points of view are important.

Apart from multilingualism, there are such language contact phenomena as for example diglossia, the use of foreign words, the use of derived words (loanwords) or, where appropriate, ad-hoc-borrowings, code-switching, code-mixing, polylingualism and more. Diglossia refers to a "situation in which there are two different forms of the same language used by a community, used in different social situations". According to another source diglossia represents: "Form der Zweisprachigkeit, bei der die eine Sprachform die Standardsprache darstellt, während die andere im täglichen Gebrauch, in informellen Texten verwendet wird, Vorkommen von zwei Sprachen in einem bestimmten Gebiet das Auftreten von zwei ausgebildeten Varianten der Schriftsprache in einem Land (Z. B. Bokmal und Nynorsk in Norwegen)" In translation it means approximately: A form of bilingualism in which one form of language represents the standard form of the default language, while the other form is employed in daily use, in informal texts,

However, there is a difference between the German and English interpretations of a word – a foreign word - which comes from another language. The Longman Dictionary interprets it as "a word taken into one language from another, SYN borrowing". The Macmillan online dictionary describes it as "a word from one language that is used in another language without being changed". These definitions correspond to the definition of the German term Foreign Word (Fremdwort) which is: "aus einer fremden Sprache übernommenes od. in der übernehmenden Sprache mit Wörtern od. Wortteilen aus einer fremden Sprache gebildetes Wort". Translated





into English: a word acquired from a foreign language or a word created in the receiving language from words or parts of words from a foreign language. German lexicology draws a line between a foreign word and a loanword. A loanword means “aus einer fremden Sprache übernommenes Wort, das sich in Aussprache, Schreibweise, Flexion der übernommenen Sprache angepasst hat (z. B. Mauer aus lat. murus).” . In English: a word adopted from a foreign language whose pronunciation, spelling and inflection was adapted (for example Mauer from lat. murus). German lexicology also distinguishes another kind of the loanword, ad-hoc-borrowing. In the case of ad-hoc borrowing, the point is the embedding of a word or lexeme (of a foreign element) in the grammatical structure of another language. Poplack calls the ad-hoc borrowing “nonce borrowings”, and she is of the opinion that this is a kind of intermediate form between the change of the language (codeswitching) and the loanword. Linguistically seen, they behave like loanwords (they undergo a grammatical or even phonological integration); sociologically, they behave as codeswitches. In code-mixing a clear-cut language of interaction is missing and it is not clear which of the two languages is the matrix language. According to Schwitalla, the change of the language often has no semantic or discourse-controlling function anymore. The term code-switching is explained as “the practice of changing from using one variety or register of language to another, for example between a more formal and more informal style of speech”. Definition of terms according to Siebenhaar: (Ad-hoc-Entlehnung -ad-hoc-borrowing) The figure can be found at: Siebenhaar, Variationslinguistik.

The process of using all possible language contact phenomena in spoken language has its origin in multilingualism. For multilingualism there are several different reasons, and therefore there are different types or kinds of multilingualism derived. According to Riehl, there are:

- 1) Individual multilingualism – which refers to the individual speaker
- 2) Territorial multilingualism – the use of language in multilingual countries or regions
- 3) Institutional multilingualism – the use of multiple working languages in the institutions.

Other linguists also include the category of so-called societal multilingualism; in this case, it is about the mutual penetration of communities, like in cross-border territories. The causes of multilingualism are different. However, in general they are based on political reasons (colonialism, globalization), on socio-economic reasons (migration) and personal reasons (bilingualism = natural multilingualism, one's own language learning = school or artificial multilingualism). The causes closely depend on the





above-mentioned types of multilingualism. This contribution deals with individual multilingualism, and treats the topic with respect to the existing forms of code-switching.

Code-switching as a current language contact phenomenon. Previous research Code-Switching belongs today to a special language contact phenomenon, although it is not new. Since the middle of the 1950s, it has been investigated by various linguists and in the context of the current globalization underway, it evokes more and more interest by linguists. There are different interpretations of the code-switching concept and the notion of it. The term itself comes from the English “code” and “to switch”. The word “code” is understood as referring to the sociolinguistic point of view, “by belonging to a certain social class given way to the use of language”. According to Romaine, the code means different languages, dialects, or styles. Although several years have already been devoted to the language contact research, there is no unity in defining of the individual terms. This applies both to the description of the term code-switching (or Code-switching, Codeswitching ,Code Switching etc.), and to the term designation. The often-used synonymous or parallel terms include Codewechsel (German designation), language change, Kodeumschaltung (German designation), code-shifting, code-alternation or alternance langagière (French designation). The definition of code-switching is primarily based on Haugen; the language shift is defined as: “code-switching occurs when a bilingual introduces a completely unassimilated word from another language into his speech.” Other linguists such as Weinreich (1953), Gumperz (1971) or Pfaff (1997) in principle agree on a universal definition, which describes the phenomenon as selective use of two languages of a speaker within a speech situation: “Code-switching has been broadly defined as the use of more than one linguistic variety (language or dialect) by a single speaker in the course of a single conversation”. Poplack sees it in a similar way, defining it as “the alternation of two languages within a single discourse, sentence or constituent”. Over the course of time, the scope of multilingualism is naturally becoming increasingly broad, and the phrasal formulation and the nature of code-switching is getting more and more attention. At the turn of the century, we can observe an extended version of the definition of code-switching by some linguists. For example, Bußmann limits the term not only to two languages, or to bilingual people, but claims that code-switching also applies “between different languages ... or varieties of a language system ... by bimulti-lingual and or bimultidialectal speakers within a conversation”.. There have also been several works on this topic published over the last ten years, if only as shorter texts, as contributions in anthologies and practical student project works, or as longer texts such as diplomas or dissertations and





monographs by authors like Munukka (2006), Hänninen&Karikoski (2011), Kadamani (2013), Roth (2013), Riehl (2014) and Knospe (2014). The development of exploration of this subject depends on the development of society. Nevertheless, in spite of the previous linguistic research in this field, some interpretations are inconsistent, especially in the nuances. For example, Hänninen and Karikoski, on the basis of their observations of the theoretical studies by other linguists, claim that the boundary between borrowing and Code Switching is not clearly defined based. Code-switching does not necessarily involve borrowing a single word or a multi-word unit. Therefore, there is also a single-word codes-witchings in addition to the type called phrasal Anglicism (as loanwords to be categorized), for example Ups and Downs, learning by doing, or possessive syntagmatic phrases such as loss of control.

Conclusion

Multilingualism helps people to enhance memory, to receive the world better comprehensibly, it also opens world gates to learner. Speaking more than one language is a great advantage and fundamental human need. Once a learner has acquired one language, it is easy to learn another languages for him. This also widens our travel opportunities and enjoy taking trips. In this modern world, it is more and more common to know foreign languages and is demandable, clearly today.

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