



A STUDY ON PATTERN OF CODE MIXING IN A SEQUENTIAL BILINGUAL YOUNG ADULTS

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ABSTRACT

The present study aimed to investigate and compares the pattern of Code Mixing in Sequential bilingual young adult. Thirty Sequential bilingual (Tamil-English) adults between the age range of 18-25 years were participated in this study. The bilingual participants were asked to describe the cookie-theft picture in Tamil. The patterns of Code Mixing (Intra Sentential Mixing and Intra Lexical Mixing) were analysed from the collected data. The results showed sequential bilingual adult uses 4.8% of Intra Sentential Mixing and 5.3% of Intra Lexical Mixing. In pattern of Code Mixing, Intra Sentential Mixing found to more in women. The present study concluded that Sequential bilingual speaker uses slightly higher percentage of Intra Lexical Mixing when compared to Intra Sentential Mixing in the picture description task. This finding will help Speech Language Pathologist to plan assessment, intervention and to development appropriate material for Sequential bilingual speakers in making clinical decision.

KEY WORDS: Code Mixing, patterns of Code Mixing, Sequential Bilingualism, Intra Sentential Mixing, Intra Lexical Mixing

INTRODUCTION

In our daily life, we faced different society using different languages. Language is the most important one to facilitate communication, in the sense of transmission of information from one person to another. In general, people will acquire a single language initially their first language, or native tongue, the language used by those with whom, or by whom, they are brought up from infancy. Subsequent “second” languages are learned to different degrees of competence under various conditions. Complete mastery of two languages is designated as Bilingualism in many cases such as upbringing by

parents using different languages at home or being raised within a multilingual community children grow up as sequential bilinguals.

Sequential bilingualism refers to person who acquires a second language after gaining the initial exposure and understanding of first language. Bilingual and multilingual language is regarding the use of state of more than one language by a speaker when communicating with others. Moreover, in term of bilingualism and multilingualism, code mixing often occur. Mix code a language into another language is common situations in Indian people nowadays. It is happening in every gender, age,



status and society. Code mixing is the phenomena of code choice. The code here means the way to expressing something through the language using certain dialect, style, register or variety of language. Code mixing occurs in a daily life such as in conversations, an event like speeches, in a media (mass media and electronic media), seminar, and so much more (Wibowo A. et al., 2017). According to Nababan (1984), Code Mixing is the situation where the speakers mix the language or kind of language in a speech act without a situation or condition that need a mixing of language.

TYPES OF CODES MIXING

Hoffman (1991), shows many patterns of code mixing based on the juncture or the scope of mixing where language takes place, Intra Sentential Mixing and Intra Lexical Mixing (the mixing occurs at the phonological level).

1) Intra Sentential Mixing

This pattern of Code Mixing occurs within a phrase, a clause or a sentence boundary.

2) Intra Lexical Mixing

This pattern of Code Mixing occurs within a word boundary.

There has been little research done, especially in Tamil to examine the pattern of Code Mixing in Sequential bilingual adult. Most of the studies have done research on Code Switching. The lack of research into the students' attitudes has left unexplored the effect of Code Mixing on learning. The present research will make an attempt to address the pattern of Code Mixing in sequential bilingual adult.

AIM OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study aimed to examine the pattern of Code-mixing (Intra Sentential Mixing and Intra Lexical Mixing) among Tamil-English Sequential bilingual young adults and to compare the pattern of Code Mixing between men and women.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out Intra Sentential Mixing in Sequential bilingual young adult
2. To find out Intra Lexical Mixing in Sequential bilingual young adult
3. To compare the pattern of Code Mixing in Sequential bilingual young adult
4. To compare the pattern of Code Mixing between men and women.

METHODOLOGY

The present study included thirty subjects (15 men and 15 women) between the age range of 18 - 25years were participated in this study.

Participants with first language (Tamil-L₁) and second language (English-L₂) were included in

this study. Sequential bilingual subjects were included in this study. Participants with monolingual speakers, multilingual speakers and Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale-a bilingual language proficiency scale score of <3 in Tamil-English languages were excluded from the study.

Subjects with Informed consent was obtained from each participant. Individual interviewing of all the subjects were carried out to obtain demographic data, occupation and medical history of the participant.

TEST PROCEDURE

The test procedure was carried out in 4 phases.

Phase I – Selection of participation

Initially, each subject was asked about their language exposure. Subjects first language (L₁) and second language (L₂) details were collected. In this phase bilingual adult who has their first language L₁. Tamil and Second language L₂- English were only selected in this study. Only sequential bilingual subjects were participated in this study.

Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale were used in all the subjects. Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) scale was used to analysis their language proficiency in both the languages (Tamil and English). This is a 0–5-point self-rating scale. In this scale, whose language proficiency rating was 3-5 in both languages, those were only participated in this study.

Phase II- Demographic information

In this phase, Demographic information was collected from each participation. In demographic data the following details were collected from the subjects; Name, age, gender and occupation of the father/mother.

Phase III- Administration of test

In this phase, bilingual subjects were given picture description task. Cookie-theft picture was given for picture description task. In this task the examiner asks the subject to describe the picture in Tamil language (First language of the subject). Code mixing was analysed from the picture description task. The following patterns of Code Mixing was analysed from each subject;

- i. Intra Sentential Mixing
- ii. Intra Lexical Mixing

Each bilingual subject response was recorded using Sony voice recorder. Then the reordered samples were transcribed for the analysis.

Phase IV – Analysing of Data

All the sequential bilingual participations were described the cookie- theft picture in Tamil language. The following pattern of Code Mixing was analysed from each subject



1) Intra Sentential Mixing

This pattern of Code Mixing occurs within a phrase, a clause or a sentence boundary, it found in the form of words, phrases or clauses of a second language in a sentence of a first language.

Example

Antha poonu vanthu paiyana edhuka solli, **she is cheering him.**

In the above sentences, it can be seen that the intra-sentential Mixing is occurs in this task because the speaker inserted the English word or sentence boundary within a Tamil sentence. It is shown by the sentence '**she is cheering him**' inserted within the sentence. Mixing of clause and phrases of second language (English) within sentences were calculated. So, the total number of mixings of second language within the sentences are counted for analysis. The formulation of analysis of the pattern of Code Mixing has given by Sugiono (2006).

The analysis of percentage of Intra Sentential Mixing was carried out using the following formula,

$$P = F/N * 100$$

P = the percentage of Intra Sentential Mixing

F = frequency of Intra Sentential Mixing on the speech utterance

N = sample (the total number of sentences in the description passage).

2) Intra Lexical Mixing

This pattern of Code Mixing occurs within a word boundary in the form of prefix and morphemes.

Example:

Father vanthu vessels **lam** clean panitu irukanga

Entha picture **la** vanthu oru nayi iruku

Based on the data above, it can be seen that Intra-lexical mixing occurs in the word boundary. It shown by the word 'vessels**lam**' in the sentence above which the english word 'vessels' with tamil suffix '**lam**'. In second example, it shown by the word 'picture**la**' in the sentence above which the english word 'picture' with tamil suffix '**la**'. This mixing is happened because the ethnic and the language use affect in daily conversation.

The analysis of percentage of Intra Lexical Mixing was carried out using the following formula,

$$P = F/N * 100$$

P = the percentage of Intra Lexical Mixing

F = frequency of Intra Lexical Mixing on the speech utterance

N = sample (the total of words in the description passage).

Statistical Analysis

Descriptive statistical analyses (Mean, Range & Standard Deviation) were carried out to find out the baseline characteristics of the samples. Graphical representations such as bar chart have been presented for describing visually the participant's characteristics.

Analysis was performed using 22version of IBM SPSS software, with the alpha level set at 0.05.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. Represents the mean age range of the study population. In this study, Age of mean ± St. Deviation is 21.37 ± 2.12.

Table 1: Descriptive analysis of Age in the study population (N=30)

Parameter	Mean± Std. deviation	Minimum	Maximum
Age	21.37±2.12	18	25

Patterns of Code Mixing

Table 2. Represents the pattern of Code Mixing in Sequential bilingual adult speakers in the study population. Intra Sentential Mixing of mean ±

St. Deviation is 4.82 ± 6.61 in the study. Intra Lexical Mixing of mean ± St. Deviation is 5.39 ± 1.99 in the study.

Table 2: Descriptive analysis of pattern of Code Mixing in Sequential bilingual young adult speakers in the study population (N=30)

Parameter	Mean± Std. deviation	Minimum	Maximum
Intra sentence Mixing	4.82±6.61	0	20
Intra lexical Mixing	5.39±1.99	2.33	10.20

Figure 1. Represents the graphic representation of pattern of Code Mixing in Sequential bilingual young adults This study result indicates, Sequential bilingual speaker uses 4.82% of Intra Sentential Mixing and 5.39% of Intra Lexical Mixing in the picture description task. Intra Lexical

Mixing is more when compared to Intra Sentential Mixing. Sequential bilingual adult speaker uses more Intra Lexical Mixing and less in Intra Sentential Mixing in the picture description task. From the study, it is shown the mixing of morphemes of second language within the sentences were found to



be more. Some of the supporting studies has found the similar finding of the pattern of Code Mixing in

bilinguals. (Pfaff, 1979; Poplack, 1980; Zentella, 1981, 1997).

Figure 1. Shows the graphic representation of pattern of Code Mixing in Sequential bilingual adult Comparison pattern of Code Mixing among Sequential bilingual young adults

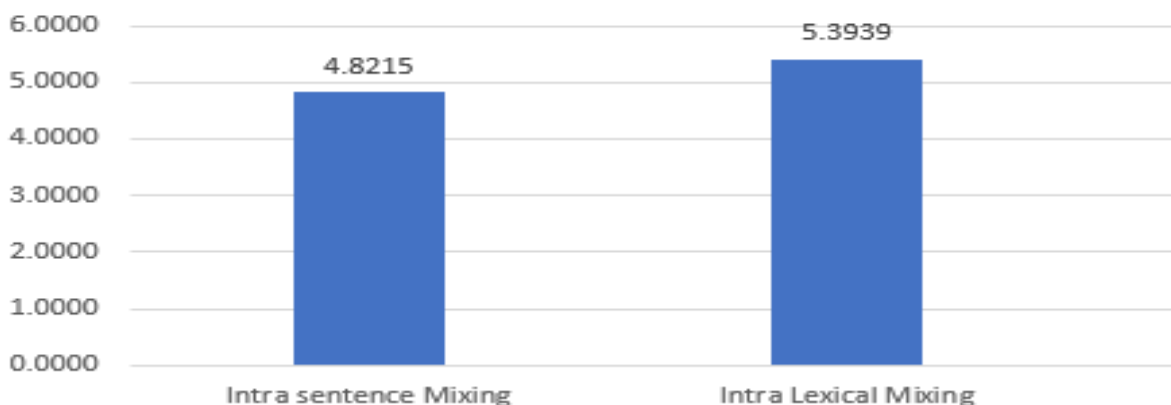


Table 3. Represents the comparison of pattern of Code-Mixing between men and women. For men, Intra Sentential Mixing of mean± St. Deviation is 1.0256±3.97 in the study. Intra Lexical Mixing of mean± St. Deviation is 5.5210±2.18 in the

study. For women, Intra Sentential Mixing of mean± St. Deviation is 8.6174±6.63 in the study. Intra Lexical Mixing of mean± St. Deviation is 5.2669±1.86 in the study

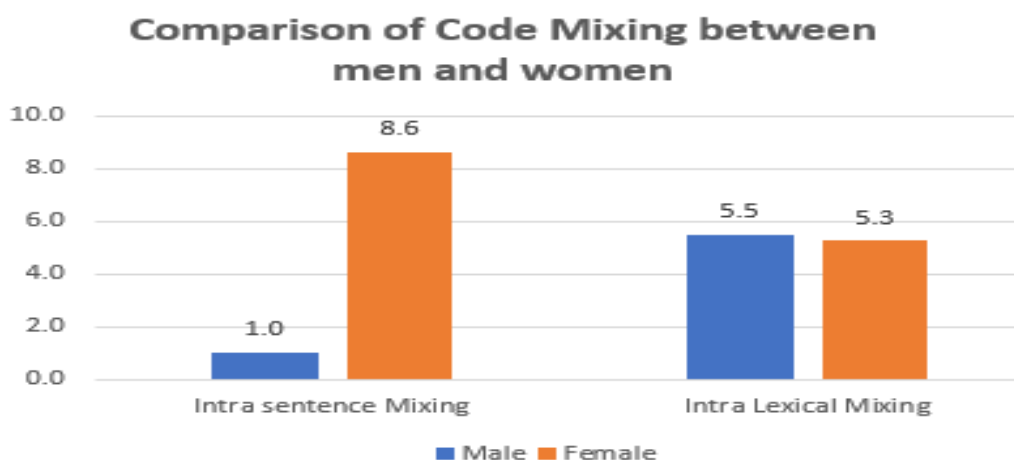
Table 3: Descriptive analysis of compare the pattern of Code Mixing between men and women in the study population (N=30)

Parameter	Average (Mean± Std. deviation)	Men	Women
		Mean± Std. deviation	
Intra Sentence Mixing	4.82±6.61	1.0256±3.97	8.6174±6.63
Intra Lexical Mixing	5.39±1.99	5.5210±2.18	5.2669±1.86

Fig 2. Represents comparison of pattern of Code Mixing between men and women. The results indicate, Sequential bilingual men use 1.0 % of Intra Sentential Mixing whereas women use 8.6% of Intra Sentential Mixing. Sequential bilingual men use 5.5% of Intra Lexical Mixing whereas women use 5.2

% of Intra Lexical Mixing. The study result indicates, Intra Sentential Mixing was found to be more in women when compared to men due to their linguistic competency. There are no differences were found in Intra Lexical Mixing between men and women.

Figure 2. Shows the graphic representation of pattern of Code Mixing between men and women



CONCLUSION

The present study concluded that Sequential bilingual speaker uses slightly higher percentage of Intra Lexical Mixing when compared to Intra Sentential Mixing in the picture description task. Women participations were Code Mixed more in Intra Sentential Mixing when compared to men participants. There is no difference found in Intra Lexical Mixing. This could be because of women having a higher linguistic competency in second language. Knowledge and understanding about Sequential bilingual language use are very important for SLPs to plan assessment, intervention and to development appropriate material for Sequential bilingual speakers in making clinical decision.

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