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**AN ANALYSIS OF CODE SWITCHING IN 'SUPERNOVA:  
KSATRIA, PUTRI DAN BINTANG JATUH' NOVEL BY DEWI  
LESTARI**

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**Abstract** English is a tool used for global communication in this era, when bilinguals switch from one language to another in clause or sentence level that is called code switching. It appears not only in daily communication but also in fiction-written materials. This study was undertaken in a fiction-written material named novel, the researcher chose *SUPERNOVA: Ksatria, Putri dan Bintang jatuh*” novel by Dewi Lestari as the object. The study was aimed to investigate the code switching produced by the characters. This study used descriptive qualitative approach because the researcher just wanted to know and describe code-switching produced. The research instruments were; researcher, documentation and observation. The result and analysis of the study showed the details of code-switching used. There were 3 types and 6 functions of code switching from the total 21 switches which were pronounced by the characters. The three types were inter-sentential, metaphorical and tag switching. The result showed that the most dominant type was inter-sentential switching. Therefore, the six code switching functions that were found; addressee specification, interference, interjection, intimacy, reiteration and quotation.

**Keywords:** Code switching, “*SUPERNOVA: Ksatria, Putri dan Bintang jatuh*”

## Introduction

Communication is an important thing for human life and it is used to give information to others. In daily life, people need to improve their communication skills due to the importance of communication for business, education, and dealing cooperation with other countries. Thus, people can interact and communicate with each other by using some languages (local, national and international language). In sociolinguistics (i.e. any study of language in relation to society), this phenomenon is well known as bilingualism or multilingualism (Matthew as cited in Jendra, 2010).

In Indonesia, which is a multilingual society, the linguistic phenomenon of mixing languages is quite common. This alternative use by bilinguals of two or more languages in the same conversation is called code-switching (Milroy and Muysken, 1995). People who speak two different languages, tend to alternate between their two spoken languages for interjection or basic sentence fillers. The speaker tendency to switch between two languages is known

as code switching and occurs when the speaker is aware of the two types and are able to keep them separate, however the speaker may not do so instinctively. This behavior is thought of as a manageable strategy, distinct from both the normal borrowing of single lingual words, terms or phrases, and inevitable interference (Columns in Mujiono, 2013:49). Then, code mixing is the switches occurring within a sentence (Hoffmann. 1991:104). Wardhaugh (1986:103) also states that code mixing is used when the conversant use both languages together to the extent that they change from one language to the other in the course of a single utterance.

The distinction between code switching and code mixing is one of the most puzzling debates in the study of code alternation. Both code switching and code mixing refer to the same purpose in “which the speaker stops using language ‘A’ and employs language ‘B’”. Wei (1998) notes that if code alternation occurs at or above clause level, it is considered code switching, but if it occurs

below clause level then it is considered code mixing.

The researcher only does investigations of code switching rather than code mixing because the researcher wants to broad insight of code switching rather than code mixing due to the code mixing is part of code switching. The researcher decides to conduct a study on the code switching on the fiction-written material named Novel. The researcher studies code switching used by some characters in ‘*SUPERNOVA: Ksatria, Putri dan Bintang Jatuh*’ novel by Dewi Lestari. It is selected as an object of investigation because of some reasons. First, this novel is a good novel that has been sold out more than 75,000 copies and nominated as Indonesia’s Best Fiction Award 2000-2001. Second, the author prefers using multilingual to monolingual. Thus, code switching phenomenon can often occur in this novel. Third, this novel presents a series of intertwined and unconventional love stories, straight and gay, with a bit of science and spirituality added to the mix. In this study, the researcher only focuses on four characters (Dhimas, Ruben, Ale and Ferre)

Concerning with the explanation above, the researcher focuses to know the types of code switching, the most dominant type of code switching used, and the possible functions of code switching used by the characters.

## **Literature Review**

### *The Definition of Code Switching*

Code switching refers to the situation where people switch between different languages within the same communication activity. This can be done by using a different language in a different sentence or different part of the communication activity (Palmer, 2009). Based on the previous definition, the researcher concludes that code switching is generally defined as the phenomenon where in a bilingual or multilingual speaker shifts from one language to another in different clause or sentence in the course of a conversation.

### *Type of Code Switching*

Mujiono (2013:50) states that situational switching occurs because of the situational

influence. Person uses different codes according to the situation. In this type of switching, the language that is used in that certain situation does not change and many features connecting to social factors are related in choosing the language that is to be spoken. Furthermore, the purpose of situational switching takes a relationship between language and social condition immediately. Metaphorical code switching happens when people do code switching to show their identities or a change of relations in the purposes of the people who take part in the conversation Wardhaugh in Mujiono (2013:50-51). People change the language that they use as they restate the situations; formal to informal, professional to private, sincere to half-hearted or joking, and respectful to unity.

Third, Romaine in Mujiono (2013:51) states that intra-sentential switching is the alternation of words and phrases between two languages within a sentence if the morph phonological adaptation does not exist. In this type of switching, speakers switch from one language to another within the same sentence. Thus a

sentence will be made up of two or more languages. Inter-sentential switching is switching which takes place within the clause or sentential form in the same discourse Mujiono (2013:51). Here, one clause or sentence is in one language and the next clause or sentence is in the other, this type of switching is most often between fluent bilingual speakers.

Jendra (2010:75-77) adds another type of code switching namely tag switching. Tag switching happens when a bilingual puts short expressions (tag) from another code at the end of his/her utterances. Tags and certain set phrases in one language are asserted into an utterance otherwise in another language. Poplack in Jalil (2009:3) voices that tag-switching is related to the inclusion of a tag (e.g. *you know, I mean, right*, etc.).

#### *Function of Code Switching*

Gumperz (1982: 75-84) suggests a number of functions of code switching. First of all, code switching has relevance in terms of direct and reported speech; this is the function of quotations. Often the speech of another person,

which is being quoted in a conversation, will be in a different language.

Secondly, code switching can be used in addressee specification, it can be used with monolinguals (accommodate to monolingual speakers by switching to the language they know) and with bilinguals (the addressee is invited to participate in the conversation) (Romaine 1995: 163). However, addressee specification can also be used to exclude someone by code switching to a language no one else in the group understands apart from the speaker and his/her addressee.

Thirdly, interjection is words or expressions, which are inserted into a sentence to convey surprise, strong emotion, or to gain attention. Interjection is a short exclamation like: Darn!, Hey!, Well!, Look!, etc. Fourthly, reiteration occurs when a message is repeated in another language. This repetition may serve as a clarification of what has just been said but often it also carries additional meanings in that it amplifies or emphasizes the message. Fifthly, message

qualification means qualifying something that has been previously said. And sixth, there is the category of switches which have the function of marking personalization versus objectification, it relates to things such as: the degree of speaker involvement in, or distance from, a message, whether a statement reflects personal opinion or knowledge, whether it refers to specific instances or has the authority of generally known fact.

Another view, Barnes in Dulm (2007:53) found that creating intimacy is one of code switching functions. For example when a bilingual has close friendship or sexual relationship with someone. Skiba in Cook (2003) mentions additional function, when code switching is used to compensate for a language difficulty, it may be viewed as interference. It is because the speaker does not have the facility in the primary language to express himself effectively then shifts to the second language in order to capture his idea or purpose. It also occurs when the speaker is upset, tired, or distracted.

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## Methodology

### *Research Design*

The method used in this research is a descriptive qualitative research. Qualitative research is usually described as allowing a detailed exploration of a topic of interest in which information is collected by a researcher through case studies, ethnographic work, interviews, and so on (Lincoln & Guba in Harwell, 2011: 148).

### *Source of Data*

The data that are analyzed are gathered from two sources; primary and secondary source. In this study, the primary source is a novel entitled '*SUPERNOVA: Ksatria, Putri dan Bintang Jatuh*' by Dewi Lestari. Then, the secondary source includes many appropriate documents in the form of literary books, theories books, internet's browsing and dictionaries which are relevant to the topic.

### *The Technique of Collecting the Data*

There are three instruments that are used in this study, they are:

1) researcher; 2) documentation; 3) observation. The key instrument of this research is the researcher herself, since she collects the data by reading the novel '*SUPERNOVA: Ksatria, Putri dan Bintang Jatuh*' by Dewi Lestari, and analyze the data by herself. The researcher uses documentation to collect the literature concerning with the theories about types of code switching and functions of code switching. By using this documentation, the researcher can analyze the utterances of some characters in the novel '*SUPERNOVA: Ksatria, Putri dan Bintang Jatuh*'.

The steps of observation that are used in this study; 1) collecting the data that are gotten by using documentation 2) the data are written and rated which those are relevant with the theory of types and functions of code switching.

Furthermore, the steps used by the researcher in collecting the data of this study are: 1) Reading the novel '*SUPERNOVA: Ksatria, Putri dan Bintang Jatuh*' thoroughly and comprehending its content; 2) Selecting the characters who often do switching in their utterances; 3) Finding some characters who often do switching

in their utterances. They are Dhimas, Ruben, Ale and Ferre; 4) Writing down all said of each selected characters which contain both Indonesian and English in their utterances; 5) Identifying the written utterances by using the theory in chapter 2. Then, getting rid of the written utterances that are not code switching.

### *Data Analysis*

The steps in analyzing the data are: 1) Examining the written data which are obtained from data collection; 2) Coding and labeling of each data according its type; 3) Screening all codes and the data labeled with similar codes are grouped together. Code of similar nature is classified to suggest the function of English Indonesian code switching in characters' utterances; 4) Counting the number of types and functions of code mixing which found; 5) Making two charts of code switching phenomenon based on the types and functions in percentages; 6) verification is done through studying the theories and looking at the data; 7) Stating what types, what is the mostly used type, and functions of the use of code switching; 8) Explaining the types

and functions of code switching in the characters' utterances.

### *Triangulation*

The researcher is the main instrument in this study. The objectivity can bias the finding of this research so that the triangulation needs to be done in data analysis. The purpose of verifying data is to check the trustworthiness, validity and reliability of the data. This study applied the triangulation of theory as a technique of checking the trustworthiness, validity and reliability of the data. The researcher uses some theories of code switching type and function by some linguists. The code switching types are defined by Wardhaugh (2006), Jalil (2009), Jendra (2010) and Mujiono (2013). Another side, the code switching functions are defined by Gumperz (1982), Romaine (1995), Cook (2003) and Dulm (2007).

### *Result and Discussion*

#### *Result*

#### *Code Switching Types*

#### *Inter-sentential Switching*

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Metaphorical Switching

Dhimas : Lho, gimana kamu bisa..? *'How can you...?'*

Ruben

: *It was so obvious!*

Dari teman-teman *hang-out* kamu, apartemen kamu yang katanya di Dupont Circle... dan kamu harus *fly* dulu untuk ngaku?! Ha-ha-ha *'From your hang-out friends, your apartment which is in Dupont Circle... and you needed to fly first for admitting?! Ha-ha-ha'*

According to the data collected, inter-sentential switching is the most frequent one (72%). The data (IE-03), was an instance of inter-sentential switching because the switching involves two different sentences by the speaker (Ruben). "It was so obvious!" was a complete or mayor sentence, there was a subject (It) and a predicate (was so obvious) which provided a description of the subject. "Was" acted as a linking verb in this sentence, and connected the subject to the subject compliment, which was the adjective "obvious".

Ale :Si bule kunyuk?  
*'The Caucasian?'*

Ferre :Yeap.

Mantan vice president-mu itu. Kena kutuk apa ya perusahaan ini, kok bisa bisanya dia direkrut jadi regional president Aku harus report ke dia langsung lagi, *every fucking month!* *'Yep. Your ex vice president. What curse that is got by this company, how come he is recruited as regional president. I have to report to him directly, every fucking month!'*

Ale :*But,*

*thank God tomorrow's Friday.*

On the data presented (MT-03), it was considered as metaphorical switching. There were two speakers, Ale and Ferre. In the early they talked about their boss, they showed that they did not like him but then Ale changed his code into English and he thanked to God when knowing that the next day was Friday, so there was a



change in the relation of purpose or topic.

*and can motivate people's emotion'. So help us God.*

### Tag Switching

Ruben : Lalu, adakah tempat buat pasangan seperti kita di negeri dongeng *'Then, is there any place for couple like us in fairy tale', my love?*

With regard to the data (TG-01), firstly the speaker spoke Indonesian then he practiced tag switching when he inserted certain phrase (tag) from English at the end of his utterance.

### Code Switching Functions

#### Addressee Specification

Dhimas : *Fine, sepuluh tahun buatmu, sepuluh tahun juga buatku. Satu masterpiece. Roman berdimensi luas yang mampu menggerakkan hati banyak orang 'Ten years for you, ten years too for me. A masterpiece. Novel that has large dimension*

In this data (MT-01), the switch served to direct the message to a specific person. The speaker used Indonesian in the previous speech with an addressee but then he switched to English when he actually talked to the God as another addressee that he asked help. In short, there was a change of addressee that the speaker talked with.

### Interference

Ruben : Sepuluh tahun dari sekarang, aku harus membuat satu karya. Satu *masterpiece*. Satu tulisan atau riset yang membantu menjembatani semua percabangan sains *'Ten years from now, I must create a work. A masterpiece. A writing or research that crosses all branches of science'*.

Dhimas : Sepuluh tahun? Lama amat *'Ten years? So long'*

Ruben  
: *Time flies,  
my friend.*

The data given (IE-04) was categorized in this function, interference. The speaker (Ruben) shifted his code into English because the meaning of his English utterance would be uncommon or strange if he stated in Indonesian. He thought that only by using English, the purpose of his utterance would be transferred in appropriate meaning.

#### Interjection

Dhimas : Badai serotonin, istilah yang bagus '*neurotransmitter storm, a good term*'.

Ruben :  
Tapi kok ada orang-orang yang malah tidur? Aku tidak mengerti. Ini adalah momen yang tidak ada duanya. '*But why do people sleep? I don't understand. This is a moment which there is no other*'. **A milestone!**

The data above (IE-01) could be ascribed to the fact interjection

because the utterance used expressed strong emotion, surprise or attention.

#### Intimacy

Ferre : Saya cuma punya waktu sampai jam enam '*I only have time until 6 o'clock*'

Rana :  
Saya usahakan '*I'll try*'

Ferre : *I'll see you, Princess.*

The data analyzed (IE-14) showed that Ferre did code switching in order to intimate the addressee that was Rana, his girlfriend. He intimated her by calling her "Princess".

#### Reiteration

Ruben : Jakarta. Aku setuju. Kota ini biangnya dualism. Antara ingin Timur dan berlagak Timur. Sembari terdesak habis oleh Barat sekaligus paling keras mengutuk-ngutuk '*Jakarta. I agree.*

*This city is the source of dualism. Whether want to be eastern or pretend to be eastern. While pushed by western and be hard in blaming’.*

Dhimas  
: Lalu  
bagaimana dengan kita? *‘Then how about us?’* **Look who’s talking, dude.** Kita juga muda, orang-orang urban *‘We are young too, urban people’.*

The data above (MT-02), was reiteration because the utterance “Look who’s talking, dude” reiterated and emphasized the previous utterance that Dhimas said. He switched as he repeated or paraphrased something he had just said in Indonesian, it gave a clearer message of his utterances.

#### Quotation

Ruben : Kamu pernah belajar teori *chaos*? *‘Did you ever learn the theory of chaos?’*

Dhimas : **Excuse me?** Teori *chaos*? Aku

baru saja menggubah puisinya Attar, salah satu mistik Sufi... *‘Theory of chaos? I just composed the poetry of Attar, one of the sufic mystic...’*

From the data given (IE-02), it could be deduced that the subject (Dhimas) switched the code (excuse me?) to preserve the originality of the message or quoted what Ruben had said. It was functioned as quotation rather than repetition or reiteration.

#### Discussion

The value of the three types of code switching shows that inter-sentential code switching, which is 72% is much higher than other types. There is a possible factor causing the use of inter-sentential switching. Most all of the four characters studied at United State of America (USA) where English is placed as primary language. All characters used to practice English in their daily life, they are fluent bilinguals and often do inter-sentential switching rather than mixing. This opinion is in accordance with Jendra (2010:79) who argues that usually fluent bilinguals perform switching well

and in contrast the less skilled ones only do mixing.

In the functions analyzed, interference is higher than other functions, the researcher assumed it is caused by the lack of vocabulary. Their thought often has clearer meaning in English, they get difficulty in explaining their thought in Indonesian. So they often shift from Indonesian to English. Another function, intimacy, happened because of the special relationship among the characters. All utterances that are categorized in intimacy are practiced between speakers who have special relationship. The words used are “dear”, “princess”, and “my love”.

## **Conclusion and Suggestion**

### *Conclusion*

From this study the researcher can conclude that code switching used were not found in all chapters analyzed and there were three types found, those three types are inter-sentential switching which contains 15 utterances (72%), metaphorical switching in 3 utterances (14%) and tag switching in also 3 utterances (14%).

Secondly, according to data set collected, the most dominant type is inter sentential switching . Finally, about the functions of code switching, for several decades, many researchers have pointed out a number of functions in code-switched speech. Poplack (1981) and Gumperz (1982), among others provided several classifications of these functions, such as direct quotations, emphasis, clarification or elaboration, reiteration/repetition, focus/topic constructions, intimacy, contextual switches, interjection, interference or lexical need switches, triggered switches, linguistic routines and/or idiomatic expressions, addressee specification, stylistic switches, etc. Therefore, here the researcher found six functions of code switching, those functions include (1) addressee specification at 10%, (2) interference at 47%, (3) interjection at 19%, (4) intimacy at 14%, (5) reiteration at 5% and (6) quotation at 5 %.

### *Suggestion*

In this study the researcher only analyzed chapter 1-15 of the ‘*SUPERNOVA: Ksatria, Putri dan Bintang jatuh*’ novel by Dewi

Lestari. One of important things that needed is identifying the further or next chapters of this novel. Secondly, there is a need of adding the statements of problem.

Perhaps further research adding other aspects such as the factor or reason causing code switching, the motivational aspects etc.

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