

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the Research**

Language is the primary tool for someone to communicate. There could be more than one language turning up in a society, which is generally known as bilingual or multilingual. If two or more languages exist in a society, the phenomenon of code switching will occur. In addition, other than being a phenomenon where more than one language is used in the utterances, code switching is also used for various functions in interactions (Heeti & Abdely, 2016). As a result, code switching is no longer rare, but instead has become a normal way of communication and furthermore has been a common sociolinguistic phenomenon in multilingual countries.

The phenomenon of code switching had been taken as the focus of study by many researchers. Heeti and Abdely (2016) conducted a research entitled “Types and Functions of Code-switching in the English Language Used by Iraqi Doctors in Formal Settings”. The research was to find out the types and functions of code switching under the theory of Poplack and Hoffman. In another research done by Yusuf, Fata, and Chyntia (2018), entitled “Types of Indonesian English Code-switching Employed in a Novel”, was aimed at investigating the types of code-switching in an Indonesian novel, languages between Indonesian and English, entitled *Antalogi Rasa*. The research was conducted by using the theory of

Hoffman. On the contrary from previous research, this research was conducted to analyze the types and functions of code switching, however using the different theory, in which the researcher limits the language between Mandarin and English used in a local movie of Singapore.

The use of code-switching is so widely and commonly used in Singapore, one of the countries with multiple cultural and languages. As Singapore is a multicultural and multilingual society, each community has its own language or mother tongue and therefore many languages are spoken in Singapore. In addition, as the lingua franca of Singapore, English is the main language used and every Singaporean therefore needs to know English. Since it is a multicultural society, most Singaporeans could communicate in English and mix languages like Mandarin, Malay or Tamil (Geman, 2016). Due to a large numbers of languages present, the phenomenon of code switching arises.

This phenomenon of code switching is found in the movie entitled *Young and Fabulous*. *Young and Fabulous* is a Singaporean cosplay-themed movie in 2016. Most of the speakers involved in the movie switch languages in their utterances while communicating with each other. Since the speakers of the movie belong to Chinese community, the languages that are being switched are mostly between Mandarin and English with the occasional addition of Hokkian (a dialect of Chinese). After watching the movie, the researcher found out that without the use of code switching have actually caused misunderstanding between one another within the communication. Therefore, the use of code switching is important enough to avoid the misunderstanding.

In *Young and Fabulous* movie, there are a few types of code switching used by the speakers in their utterances. As proposed by Poplack (as cited in Heeti & Abdely, 2016), there are three types of code switching. They are intra-sentential switching, inter-sentential switching, and tag-switching. Intra-sentential switching occurs within the sentence, inter-sentential switching occurs between sentences boundary, and tag switching occurs when there is an insertion of a tag from other language into the utterances. Furthermore, according to the theory of Appel and Muysken (as cited in Geman, 2016), code switching is proposed into six kinds of function. The functions are referential function, directive function, expressive function, phatic function, metalinguistic function and poetic function. For instances, the researcher shows the phenomenon of code switching taken from the utterances in the movie as followed.

This example is taken from Hao Ren's utterance in which he uttered at 01:06:58 when he was talking to his father. The researcher found out that the phenomenon of intra-sentential switching occurred in his utterance.

Mandarin-English : “难道是 **rupiah** meh?”

Pinyin : “Nán dào shì rupiah meh?”

English : “Is it rupiah meh?”

From the example above, it can be seen that the speaker spoke in Mandarin, however inserted a word from English inside his utterance. As seen from the utterance, the language alternation occurs within the sentence. Therefore, this phenomenon is intra-sentential switching. In addition, the insertion “rupiah” was referred to the currency of Indonesia, in which the speaker used it in English

instead of Mandarin as Rupiah is its origin term. In this case, the code switching occurred in this utterance is used for referential function.

Another example is taken from Violet's utterance in which she uttered at 00:58:25 when she saw Jordan and adoring him. The researcher found out that the phenomenon of inter-sentential code switching occurred in her utterance.

English-Mandarin : **“So cute, you are so cute.** 我要他和我们一起参加比赛.”

Pinyin : So cute, you are so cute. Wǒ yào tā hé wǒ men yī qǐ cān jiā bǐ sài

English : So cute, you are so cute. I want him to join us in the competition.

From the example above, it can be seen that the phenomenon of code switching occurred in Violet's utterance as the speaker first started with Mandarin and switched to English in sentential level, in which therefore is categorized into inter-sentential code switching. As seen from the utterance, Violet expressed her adore towards Jordan by expressing how cute he is, thus code switching here is used for expressive function.

In conclusion, this research is conducted to analyze code switching in Young and Fabulous movie. The phenomenon of code switching in this movie has highly evoked the researcher to analyze code switching because the researcher found out that code switching is very important to be used in order to avoid misunderstanding, and also in order to make the conversation within the

communication clear. Therefore, the purpose of this research is to find out the types and functions of code switching in Young and Fabulous movie.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

Based on the background of the research, the researcher identifies the following problems, which are:

1. The types of code switching in Young and Fabulous movie
2. The functions of code switching in Young and Fabulous movie
3. The occurrences of code switching in Young and Fabulous movie

## **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the identification of the problem, the researcher limits the research into:

1. The types of code switching based on Poplack's theory
2. The functions of code switching based on Appel and Muysken's theory

## **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

In relevant with the limitation of the problem, the researcher formulates the main problem to be answered as the following:

1. What are the types of code switching in Young and Fabulous movie?
2. What are the functions of code switching in Young and Fabulous movie?

### **1.5 Objective of the Research**

Based on the formulation of the problem, the objectives of the research are:

1. To find out the types of code switching in Young and Fabulous movie.
2. To find out the functions of code switching in Young and Fabulous movie.

### **1.6 Significance of the Research**

This research discusses about the phenomenon of code switching in which the researcher hopes that this research could bring the benefits for:

1. Theoretically

Students in English Department who are interested in learning code switching to be able to understand deeper about code switching, other language learners to understand and know the types and functions of code switching and also for future researcher who is going to conduct the research with similar problems as references.

2. Practically

The information gained from this research is expected to provide a new point of view that code switching could be used as a strategy of communication and code switching could actually be implemented to avoid misunderstanding during the communication.

### **1.7 Definition of Key Terms**

In order to draw a clear understanding in terms used in the research which is going to be conducted, the researcher would like to provide clarifications about the terms as the following details.

1. Code : Code is language (Iqbal, 2011).
2. Code Switching : Code switching is an occurrence where people communicate with more than a language in a sentence or utterance (Matiini, 2017).
3. Sociolinguistics : Sociolinguistics is the study of language in society (Wardhaugh & Fuller, 2015)