

# A STUDY OF CODE MIXING IN ENGLISH NOVEL ENTITLED "CRAZY RICH ASIANS" BY KEVIN KWAN

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## ABSTRACT

The switching and the mixing code are now become a usual phenomenon in this globalization era. Code mixing can occur when the person understand the other language as well. The aims of the research are to find out the types of code mixing that frequently found in English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan, to find out the part of novel which is frequently used code mixing, and also to find out the reasons that make them do code mixing within a sentence in English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan. The writer uses the qualitative research method in analyzing and interpreting the data. The population in this research is the part one, part two, and part three of the novel. In addition, the sampling is the writer using the multi-stage cluster sampling in which the writer will choose the data randomly according to the types of the code mixing. The result of the research is there are 20% of alternation, 76% of insertion, and 4% of congruent lexicalization. Therefore, the most dominant types of the code mixing that found in the novel is insertion. The next is the percentage of the part of the novel in using code mixing are 55% for part one, 41% for part two, and 4% for part three. Thus, the part of the novel that dominant in using code mixing is the part one. This also makes the point for the reason in using code mixing. There are some reasons of using code mixing in the English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan are to express the attitude, the messages, the situations, and the emotions in order to make the story more expressive and be an original story. Another one is for talking about particular topic and also expressing group identity.

**Keywords:** Sociolinguistics, Code Mixing, Types of Code Mixing, Alternation, Insertion, Congruent Lexicalization, The Reason of Using Code Mixing.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Nowadays language is become important in our daily life. A language must be understood by people, thus the communication can be occurred in our daily life. According to T.E Hulme, "language is by its very nature a communal thing; that is express never the exact thing but a compromise—that which is common to you, me, and everybody". Based on that statement we can say that a language is a tool which is used to make understanding in communication and interaction in the

society. Not only a child, adult people also can still learn how to use the language well. Using the language is not only for communication. It is also to express our feeling and opinion.

Indonesia is one of the country which is has a variety of language. There is always some variation in a language. For example in English, there are varieties in English such as London English, Canadian English, American English, British English, and so on. The variety within a language is called as a dialect. Dialect is usually used with a group of people who is come from another area. The regional people have their own

way to communicate and this is the way which is make a dialect expanded in one country. There is a particular dialect or language that a person chooses to use in any occasion which is called as a code. It means a code covers not only a dialect, but also a language.

There are two kinds of the ability for mastering some languages. The first one is called as bilingualism which is has the ability to speak two languages, and the other one is called as multilingualism which has the ability to speak several languages (more than two languages). Indonesia is one of the countries which is include to bilingualism country. In communication people who are able to speak more than one language may do a switch code or mix code from one language to another language. The switching and the mixing code are now become a popular phenomenon in this globalization era. Firstly before the person using switching or mixing, he or she will make a deal with another people thus they can make a good understanding.

Code mixing can occur when the person understand the other language as well. He or she will mix more than one language in one utterance. We can easier find this in many case, for example in magazine, advertisement, novel, and sometimes in the conversation.

This research will focus in the types of code mixing which is frequently used in a novel. Beside the orally which is found in utterances between conversation, it is also usually found in written such as in novel or another text books. It is interesting to make this research because nowadays code mixing became a popular in some group. In this research will conduct in a novel; it is include to the English novel. From that we can know what the reason some people do a code mixing in their daily activities for orally as in conversation and also written as in novel and other textbooks. Therefore based on those reasons, the writer conducts the research entitled "A Study of Code Mixing Found in Novel Entitled *"Crazy Rich Asians"* by Kevin Kwan".

## **1.2 Previous Research**

### **1.2.1 Hikmah Nur Febriana (2014)**

Hikmah wrote Code Mixing by the broadcasters of Prambors Radio, an undergraduate thesis, English

department, faculty of letters, university of Gunadarma. The aim of the research is to identify the types of code mixing found in the utterances produced by the broadcasters of Prambors FM Radio, and to analyze the kind of syntactic unit that occur in the utterances produced by the broadcasters of Prambors FM Radio. The writer used the qualitative method in analyzing and describing the types of code mixing and the syntactic unit when the radio broadcasters do code mixing within their utterances during broadcasting. The result of the research is the most type of code mixing is that in insertion are 87.1% and the most syntactic unit is that in words are 76.8%.

## **1.3 Position of Research**

According to previous researches above about code mixing phenomenon, those are about the types, the reasons of code mixing, and the syntactic unit when do code mixing. Compared to the previous researches, the object of this research is an English novel. The writer conducted the research based on those previous researches. However, this research is only focusing on the types of code mixing, and analyzing the reason that make the author using code mixing in English novel entitled *"Crazy Rich Asians"* by Kevin Kwan. In addition, the writer wants to find out the part of the novel in which frequently used code mixing.

## **1.4 Problem Statement**

Based on the background of the study that the writer explained above, the writer draws some problems and limits of the problems. Some problems that can be formulated and will be discussed on this research are as follows:

1. What are types of code mixing that frequently found in English novel entitled *"Crazy Rich Asians"* by Kevin Kwan?
2. What is the part of novel that dominant using code mixing?
3. What are the reasons that make the author using code mixing within a sentence in English novel entitled *"Crazy Rich Asians"* by Kevin Kwan?

## **1.5 Objective of the Study**

Based on the background and the problem formulations above, the objectives of this research are:

1. To find out the types of code mixing that frequently found in English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan.
2. To find out the part of novel which is frequently used code mixing.
3. To find out the reasons that make the author using code mixing within a sentence in English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Definition of Sociolinguistics**

Language provides a variety of ways saying something in some social context. Sociolinguistics is concerned with the relationship between language and the context in which it is used.

Based on Chambers (2002, 2003) stated that 'sociolinguistics is that branch of linguistics which studies just those properties of language and languages which require reference to social, including contextual, factors in their explanation.' As a branch of linguistics, sociolinguistics is interesting in explaining and examining the way people use language in different contexts provides a wealth information about the way language works, as well as about the social relationship in a community.

### **2.2 Definition of Bilingualism and Multilingualism**

According to Hamers and Blanc (1987:6) define bilingualism as "the state of a linguistic community in which two languages are in contact with the result that two codes can be used in the same interaction and that a number of individuals are bilingual". In other words, bilingualism is the ability to use or speak two languages. A bilingual situation can produce on one or two languages involved.

Based on As Sridhar (1996, p.50) says, 'multilingualism involving balanced, native like command of all the languages in the repertoire is rather uncommon. Typically, multilingual have varying degrees of command of the different repertoires. The differences in competence in the various languages might range from command of a few lexical items, formulaic expressions such as greetings, and rudimentary

conversational skills all the way to excellent command of the grammar and vocabulary and specialized register and styles.' Therefore, multilingualism is the ability to use or speak several languages (more than two languages). It is moving from one language to another in the course of a single conversation. The choices vocabulary that used is to distinguish the groups and the variety of multilingualism. A multilingual individual is anyone who can communicate in more than one language, be it active (through speaking and writing) or passive (through listening and reading).

### **2.3 Definition of Code**

Code can be used to refer to any kind of system that two or more people employ for communication. According to Ronald Wardaugh (1986: 101) stated that "a system used for communication between two or more parties used on any occasions. Therefore, code is the way to communicate that a person chooses on any occasion. It can actually be used for a system used by a single person, as when someone devises a private code to protect certain secret.

### **2.4 Definition of Code Mixing**

According to Wardhaugh (1986: 103) stated that "code mixing occurs when conversant use both languages together to the extent that they change from one language to the other in the course of a single utterance". Therefore, code mixing occurred within one sentence. In other words, there are two languages in one sentence or utterance.

According to Hudson (1996) differentiated code mixing from borrowing on the basis of speech and language system. He noted that code mixing involves mixing language in one sentence or one utterance; however, borrowing is usually adapted to the speaker's first language. The speakers pronounced and used grammatically as if they were part of the speaker's first language. For example, the words 'active', 'music', 'lobby', and 'effective' in English become 'aktif', 'musik', 'lobi', and 'efektif' in Indonesian.

Code-mixing and borrowing are often distinguish formally, e.g. through morphology, as taking place above and below the word level, respectively. Code-mixing involves inserting alien words or constituents into a clause; borrowing entering alien elements into a



lexicon. It is not always the case, however, that borrowing can be seen as a form of simple vocabulary extension, and that code-mixing has a primarily symbolic function, e.g. marking a mixed cultural identity.

#### 2.4.1 Types of Code Mixing

This is type of code mixing based on Muysken (2000). He uses code mixing to cover the three main outcomes of bilingual speech. His subdivisions are (1) *code switching*, which he also calls *alternation*; in this type of combination, the languages are said to retain their individual identity, (2) *insertion*, in which only short elements from language A are inserted into language B, and again the structure of B is not altered, and (3) *congruent lexicalization*, in which there is a largely shared structure, lexicalized by elements from either language. Here are the explanations about the three types of code mixing as following:

##### I. Alternation

In this perspective code mixing is akin to the switching of codes between turns or utterances. Switching is only an appropriate term for the alternational type of mixing. The term code switching is less neutral in two ways; as a term it already suggests something like alternation (as opposed to insertion), and it separates code mixing too strongly from phenomena of borrowing and interference. The term 'switching' is for language interaction between clause, and 'mixing' for intra-clausal phenomena.

##### II. Insertion

The second type of the code mixing according to Muysken (2000) is insertion. Insertion, in which only short elements from language are inserted into language B, and again the structure of B is not altered.

There are insertions of several types of constituents. Here are the features of insertional code mixing as following:

- 1) A good starting point for our analysis is constituent structure, a central notion in the analysis of the sentence. A

constituent can be any syntactic unit, either a lexical item (e.g. noun) or a phrase (e.g. a prepositional phrase). For example:

(a) Ni-ka- / wash all the clothes.

'I / washed all the clothes.'  
(Swahili/English; mayers-scotton 1993b:80)

Here the principle would predict *wash all the clothes* to be single switch, even though the element *wash* itself receives Swahili prefixes and could be treated as an incorporated borrowing.

- 2) The second feature of insertions is that they tend to exhibit a **nested a b a structure**. The fragment preceding the insertion and the fragment following are grammatically related. An example is:

(b) Chay-ta las dos de la *noche*-ta chaya-mu-yku.

'There/ at two in the morning/ we arrive.'

Here the locative/directional expression *chay-ta* 'there' and the verb *chaya-mu-yku* 'we arrive' are clearly part of the same clause.

- 3) A third property is that the switched elements tend to be **content words** rather than function words. Inserted elements are mostly nouns, adjectives, and verbs.
- 4) The fourth feature is that many Spanish insertions are **selected elements** (objects or complements) rather than adjuncts.
- 5) The last is **morphological integration**, which is particularly striking in the case of verbs, but also occurs with quantifiers.

##### III. Congruent lexicalization

In addition to alternation and insertion, there is a third type of code mixing; it is congruent lexicalization. The notion of congruent lexicalization underlies the study of style shifting and dialect or standard variation

rather than bilingual language use proper. However, the congruent lexicalization can also be occurred on the sentence in which the languages share the grammatical structure of different languages.

#### **2.4.2 The Reason of Code Mixing**

The other reasons for Bilinguals to Switch or Mix their Languages according to Hoffman (1991: 116) are as following:

##### **1. Talking about a particular topic**

People sometimes prefer to talk about a particular topic in one language rather than in another. Sometimes, a speaker feels free and more comfortable to express their emotional feelings in a language that is not their everyday language.

##### **2. Quoting somebody else**

People sometimes like to quote a famous expression or saying of some well-known figures. In Indonesian, those well-known figures are mostly from some English-speaking countries. Then, because many of the Indonesian people nowadays are good at English, those famous expressions or sayings can be quoted intact in their original language.

##### **3. Being emphatic about something**

Usually, when someone who is talking using a language that is not his native tongue suddenly wants to be emphatic about something, he/she, either intentionally or unintentionally, will switch from his second language to his first language. Or, on the other hand, there are some cases where people feel more convenient to be emphatic in their second language rather than in their first language.

##### **4. Interjection (Inserting sentence fillers or sentence connectors)**

Language switching and language mixing among bilingual or multilingual people can sometimes mark an interjection or sentence connector. It may happen unintentionally or intentionally.

##### **5. Repetition used for clarification**

When a bilingual wants to clarify his/her speech so that it will be understood more by the listener, he/she can sometimes use both of the languages that he masters

saying the same utterance (the utterance is said repeatedly).

##### **6. Intention of clarifying the speech content for interlocutor**

When bilingual talks to another bilingual, there will be lots of code switching and code mixing occurred. It means to make the content of his/her speech runs smoothly and can be understood by the hearer.

##### **7. Expressing group identity**

Code switching and code mixing can also be used to express group identity. As it has been mentioned previously, the way of communication of academic people in their disciplinary groupings, are obviously different from other groups. In other words, the way of communication of one community is different from the people who are out of the community (Barnett, 1994: 7).

### **3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Research Design**

The writer uses qualitative research method. The reason using the qualitative method is because the data will be interpreted with words, and also explanation. Based on Warren and Karner stated that qualitative research relies on the process of analytic descriptions for "identification of recurrent patterns or themes and attempting to construct a cohesive representation of the data. These recurrent themes are then linked to concerns or issues in the literature - theoretical, conceptual, or applied - as you develop interpretations of what is happening in your setting (or interviews or documents or images) and what their words or images mean to the participants" (2005:190). The writer develops the data and interpret the data thus it can be answered the problem. The writer explained the data by describing the things that are associated with the phenomenon of code mixing that found in the English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan.

#### **3.2 Source of Data**

The data was taken from the English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan. It was published in United States by Anchor books. There are 527 pages in the novel and it divided into three parts. This novel is a work of fiction in which the names, characters,

place, and incidents either are product of the author imagination or are used fictitiously.

## 4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents and discuss about the result of the study. It is discusses about the finding types of code mixing and also the reason of using code mixing that is occurred in the English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan. The writer focuses on doing observation for all chapters in the novel. The data of the code mixing were taken from the sentences which are appropriate to the criteria of the type of code mixing.

### 4.2 Types of Codes Mixing

Table 1. The Frequency of Code Mixing in English novel "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan According to the Types of Code Mixing.

Types of Code Mixing	
Alternation	9
Insertion	35
Congruent Lexicalization	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>

After marking some sentences in English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan, the writer found 46 sentences which have code mixing in it. In this research, the data are classified into three types of code mixing; they are alternation, insertion, and congruent lexicalization. The sentences which have code mixing contain of 9 alternations, 35 insertions, and 2 congruent lexicalization. The chart below, it shows the code-mixed sentences frequency of occurrence according to the types of code mixing, as follows:

### The Types of Code Mixing

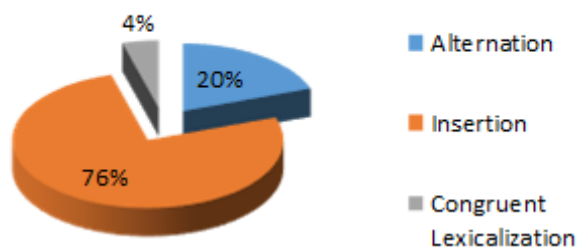


Figure 1. The Code-Mixed Sentences Frequency of Occurrence According to the Typed of Code Mixing

Based on the chart above, the writer found there are 46 sentences which have

code mixing in it. The percentage above showed that alternation are 20%, insertion are 76%, and the congruent lexicalization are only 4%. Based on the chart above also showed that the insertion type is the most dominant occurred. Here is the discussion about the types of code mixing that occurred in the English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan, as follows:

#### 4.2.1 Alternation

No.	Sentence	Code Mixing
1.	"You gotta treat those babies right, hei mai?"	hei mai?

*You gotta treat those babies right, **hei mai?***. According to sociolinguistics approach, the sentence above is include into alternation; the code mixing is derived from Cantonese form of the clause "hei mai?", in English it refers to *isn't that right?*. In this process the two languages are relatively separated. According to Muysken (2000) the figure of alternation, the type of code mixing which is relatively separated is called as alternation. The sentence above based on the alternation, and these elements are not connected structurally.

#### 4.2.2 Insertion

No.	Sentence	Code Mixing
1.	"Daisy, your information is always tap ah kay!"	Tap ah kay!

*Daisy, your information is always **tap ah kay!***. According to sociolinguistics approach, the sentence above is included into insertion. The code mixing is derived from Malay form of the word *tap ah kay*, in English the word *tap ah kay* refers to *not accurate*. Based on Muysken (2000), the feature of code mixing is that the switched elements tend to be content words rather than function words. Inserted elements are mostly nouns, adjectives, and verbs. In this case, the word *tap ah kay*, in English refers to *not accurate* is included into adjective.

#### 4.2.3. Congruent Lexicalization

No	Sentence	Code Mixing
1.	As my father always says, the only way to get these ang mor gau	Ang mor gau sai; dual an chiao



	sai to respect you is to smack them in the face with your dual an chiao money until they get on their knees.	
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As my father always says, the only way to get these **ang mor gau sai** to respect you is to smack them in the face with your **dual an chiao** money until they get on their knees. According to sociolinguistics approach, the sentence approach is included into congruent lexicalization. The code mixing are derived from Cantonese form of the word *ang mor gau sai* and from hokkien form of the word *dual an chiao*, in English the word *ang mor gau sai* refers to *British politicians* and the word *dual an chiao* refers to *big cock (slang)*. In this case based on the Muysken (2000) can be described that the grammatical structure of the sentence is shared by the language. The words from the language are inserted more or less randomly.

#### 4.3 The Part of Novel That Most Dominant in Using Code Mixing

In this subchapter, the writer will discuss about the part of novel which has the most dominant in using code mixing. The most dominant in using code mixing will show you the reason of using the code mixing that will be discussed in the next subchapter. Here is the table of part of novel which has the most dominant in using code mixing, as follows:

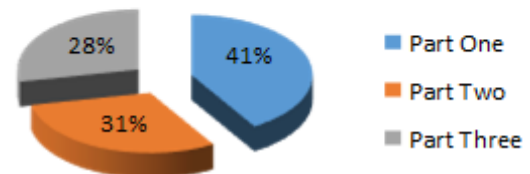
**Table 2. The Frequency of Using Code Mixing in the Part of the English Novel Entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan**

No.	Part of Novel	
1.	Part One	19
2.	Part Two	14
3.	Part Three	13
Total		46

After knowing the types of code mixing, the writer will discuss about part of novel that most dominant in using code mixing. In the table above, showed clearly how often the writer of the novel; here is Kevin Kwan using code mixing. In the first chapter, Kevin Kwan already tried to use the code mixing and it was the dominant part of the novel which is used the code mixing in it. According to the table above showed that there are 19 for part one, 14 for part two, and 13 for part three. In every

part of the novel contain of the types of code mixing which already discussed in the previous discussion. The chart below will show the percentage about the part of the novel that most dominant in using code mixing, as follows:

#### Part of the Novel



**Figure 2. The Part of the Novel that Most Dominant in Using Code Mixing**

Based on the chart above, the writer can find the frequency of using code mixing in every part of the novel. In the percentage above showed that part one are 55%, part two are 41%, and part three are 4%.

In conclusion from the first part, we are as a reader will know that this novel will present some new words from another language. It become stronger statement when the writer saw the next chapter of the novel found again the code-mixed sentences. As the result, the second and the third chapter, Kevin Kwan still used the code mixing. After knowing the percentage of using code mixing in every part of the novel, the writer can find some reasons of using code mixing by Kevin Kwan will be discussed in the next discussion.

#### 4.4 The Reasons of Using Code Mixing

This section will discuss about the reason of using code mixing in English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan. The writer will give a brief description about the author of the English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians"; his name is Kevin Kwan. Kwan was born in Singapore, on November 1973. He raised in Singapore until the age of 12. Kwan grew up in Houston and attended the University of Houston. And now, he resides in New York City. Based on the biography of Kevin Kwan, the writer can conclude the reason of Kevin Kwan used code mixing in his novel. The author of

the novel already has the background of the languages that have been used in the novel; they are Malay, Cantonese, and Hokkien. In addition, Kwan wants to show some Asians culture.

The reasons also will be interpreted based on the theories that related to the case. First, according to Grosjean (1982) stated that "some bilinguals mix two languages when they cannot find proper words or expressions or when there is no appropriate translation for the language being used. Also, their interlocutors, situations, messages, attitudes, and emotions generate code-mixing". Therefore, this statement can be the reason of this case. The statement said that many reasons the people using code mixing. The appropriate reason for this case is because the author of the novel (Kevin Kwan) wants to show the messages, the attitudes, the emotions and also the situations in order to make the story more understand, to make the original story, and also the author wants to show the culture of the Asians itself in language one.

The other reasons are based on the Hoffman (1991:116), they are talking particular topic and expressing group identity. In this novel, the author tried to express the culture of the Asians by mixing the language. The mixing languages are Malay, Cantonese, and Hokkien. When the character are talking about particular topic, the author express with the mixing language. It can make the story more understand and natural. It is also makes the story being an original and the culture that introduce can be accepted to the reader.

Therefore, the reasons of using code mixing in English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan are to express the attitude, the messages, the situations, and the emotions to make the story more expressive and be an original story. Original here means this novel talking about Asians culture, thus to make it original story the author built the expression by using some languages in Asians. Those reasons also related to the background of the author (Kevin Kwan) who is born and grew up until the age of 12 years old, thus the author wants to share some Asians culture in his novel. Another one is for talking about particular topic and also expressing group identity.

## 5. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE RESEARCH

### 5.1 Conclusion

From the result of the analysis, the writer found there are 46 sentences that contain of the code mixing in it. There are three types of code mixing; namely alternation, insertion, and congruent lexicalization. The writer was using qualitative research method in order to find the result of the research. After marking and analyzing, the writer classifying the types based on the Muysken (2000) theory about the types of code mixing. The writer found the frequency of using code mixing in English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan are 20% of alternation, 76% of insertion, and 4% of congruent lexicalization. Therefore, the insertion is the most dominant types of code mixing which is used by the author of the novel. The part of the novel that most dominant using code mixing is also influence the reason in using code mixing. The percentage of the part of the novel in using code mixing are 55% for part one, 41% for part two, and 4% for part three. Thus, the part of the novel that dominant in using code mixing is the part one. This also makes the point for the reason in using code mixing. There are some reasons of using code mixing in the English novel entitled "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan are to express the attitude, the messages, the situations, and the emotions in order to make the story more expressive and original. Another one is for talking about particular topic and also expressing group identity.

### 5.2 Future Research

There are still some kinds of types of code mixing from different theories. The writer suggests to the next researcher to make another language in code mixing beside English-Indonesian language, because it also interesting to analyze another language in code mixing. Be careful in analyzing the types of code mixing because sometimes it can make you confused. One of the types can be looking same like another if you do not realize it carefully. For the next researcher should be stayed focus and be more patience in finding the types of code mixing, especially in classifying the types of code mixing based on some theory.



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