LANGUAGE CHOICE AMONG FEMALES IN EQWIP HUBS COMMUNITY

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Abstrak

Pemilihan bahasa adalah fenomena yang umum di masyarakat multibahasa. Penelitian ini dilatarbelakangi oleh penggunaan keanekaragaman kode bahasa yang digunakan oleh anggota komunitas EQWIP HUBs. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah 1) untuk menggambarkan bentuk pilihan bahasa dan menjelaskan faktor-faktor yang menentukan pilihan bahasa di komunitas ini, 2) untuk mengetahui alasan pribadi apa yang membuat mereka menggunakan bahasa yang berbeda dan 3) untuk menggambarkan fitur bahasa wanita apa gunakan di komunitas ini. Studi ini menguji perspektif sosiolinguistik pada pilihan bahasa di komunitas EQWIP HUBs berdasarkan teori Hymes yang dikenal sebagai singkatan SPEAKING, seperti (1) setting dan situation (2) participant (peserta), (3) ends (tujuan), (4) act sequence (urutan tindakan), (5) key (nada tutur), (6) instrumen, (7) norma, dan (8) genre. Masalah terakhir menggunakan teori Lakoff tentang fitur bahasa wanita. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif. Beberapa langkah telah dilakukan seperti, observasi, wawancara dan transkrip. Hasil penelitian ini menyatakan bahwa bahasa Inggris adalah bahasa utama yang digunakan dalam komunitas ini karena aturan yang ditetapkan oleh komunitas dan kehadiran penutur asli.

Kata Kunci : *pemilihan bahasa, fitur bahasa wanita*

Abstract

Language choice is a phenomenon that is common in multilingual societies. Language encounters that happen over and over can create a bilingual or multilingual group. This research is motivated by the use of the diversity of language codes used by members of the EQWIP HUBs community. The purposes of this study are 1) to describe the form of language choice and explain the factors that determine the language choice in this community, 2) to know what personal reason that makes them use different languages and 3) to describe what women language feature use in this community and how they enhance English language by using women linguistic features. This study examines the sociolinguistic perspective on language choice in the EQWIP HUBs community based on Hymes' theory known as the SPEAKING acronym, such as (1) setting and scene (2) participants, (3) ends, (4) act sequence, (5) keys, (6) instrumentalities, (7) norms, and (8) genre. The last problem use Lakoff theory about women language features.

The method used in this research is qualitative method. Some steps has been done such as, observation, interview and transcribe. The result of this study state that English is the main language used in this community because of the rules set by the community and presence of the native speaker. This research acknowledges that language choice can only be made by a multilingual or bilingual group. All members in this community are multilingual people who speak three languages and they use the three languages with different interlocutors.

Ke**ywords:** *language choice, women's language features*

INTRODUCTION

Language has a specific purpose as a communication tool used by one person to communicate with another. The conversation can be written or spoken, depending on what people want to say. Language encounters that happen over and over can create a bilingual or multilingual group. Multilingual / bilingual almost exists in every territory or group. The multilingual trend is triggered by the existence of people who have a language that is distinct from other cultures or can be caused by regional differences. Social interactions involving speakers with different cultures lead to language contact. In this regard, Foley (1997: 384) says that contact between two or more cultures results in a change of language. Almost all people in Indonesia are bilingual and multilingual, including people in Surabaya city.

Citizens in Surabaya are capable of using Javanese and Indonesian, while people coming from outside Indonesia, such as Chinese living in Surabaya, can speak Javanese, Indonesian, Mandarin and English. Throughout Indonesia, people who have national and regional languages are called bilingual and multilingual. An individual not only masters the mother tongue or the first language (L1), but can also learn the national language, Indonesian as the second language (L2).

Indonesia has a number of cultures and languages. While it has a variety of languages, culture has developed an Indonesian language. In Indonesia, international migrants, as in Surabaya, are also building a culture that aims to be a place to share stories about the things that are happening in the world and to seek the opinions of each participant. The definition of speech communities are groups that share values and attitudes about language use, varieties and practices (Morgan, 2014). This community has a special event that is Girl's Night, On Tuesday and Thursday, meet twice in 2 weeks. According to the group name, the topic is always about the role of women.

RESEARCH QUESTION

1. What languages are used by EQWIP HUBs participants seen from Dell Hymes' SPEAKING?
2. Why does the member use specific language when talking to another member?
3. What linguistic features are employed by females in the EQWIP HUBs community?

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Type

The data was taken from a real phenomenon, from the actual place and event. Data was taken when EQWIP HUBs held Girl's Night for discussing a topic. The data has been collected including the result of conversation. The form of interaction that occurs within the community can be seen in various speech events. In connection with this study, the main data is the event speech when they talk. The main subjects are native speakers and members. The data is using a qualitative method.

This study used a sociolinguistic approach and it was a field study. The meeting is the main data to find out how language choices happen that occur within the community.

Participants and Setting

The subject that use is from some females in 'Girls Night' event at EQWIP HUBs community. EQWIP HUBs community is a nonprofit community in Surabaya and this community is a global network of innovation spaces that connect and change the economic trajectory of adolescents by providing skills appropriate to the needs of the job market, entrepreneurship incubator, gender-appropriate programs, facilitation, access to business networks and grants start-up capital for new entrepreneurs. The community living in Surabaya has native speaker from Canada who have English language skills while members come from Indonesia. There are 8 subjects in this event, old member (member A&B), new member (member C, D&E), passive members (member F&G) and native speaker as the organizer.

Collecting the data have its way, this section contains the procedure of collecting the data.

1. Keep up the event in community
   The initial purpose of joining this community was to fulfill this research by analyzing the language choice in the event.
2. Recording, writer began to gather the data by recording the conversation among members.
3. Next step after record is transcribing. All data from records are transcribed and collected to be reduced to the next step. It simplify the analysis of data.
4. Classifying the SPEAKING model and women's language. When the all data has been collected and began to be analyzed with several existing theories.
5. Interviewing the subject. This step is done to answer the second research question which leads to each participant's reason

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Language choice among Females in EQWIP HUBs community

Result

This section present what language preference in 'Girl's Night' event within the network of EQWIP HUBS. The research that has been done, participants use more than one language to express their interpretation and convey something to others. Several things that make them choose the language to tell the other members, factors that make them use different language to speak with other members and the linguistic features women use within the community. The first and the second research question are about language choice, and the next is about the linguistic features of the languages of women.

-The aspects of language choice

This section discussed language choice at an event called "Girls' Night" seen from theory SPEAKING (Setting, Participants, Ends, Act sequence, Key, Instrumentalities, Norms of Interaction, and Genre). There are 6 active participants, Member A, B, C, D, E, F, and Native speaker.

-The aspect of language choice in English

The main language used is the English language. All members must use English as their main language, particularly when speaking with native speakers. The data includes English conversations between members to native and other members.

(1)

Native : So girls, it is nice to see you again here. Our topic today is Women as A Leader.

Member A : Waw that's a good topic to discuss.

Native : Well, nowadays there are many women who become leaders such as in companies, within the State or as mayors. In my country there are many smart women and she is a good decision maker.

Member A : Ya but people prefer to choose men rather than women to become a leader, because they are strong and firm.

The dialogue above was taken from the beginning of the discussion session. The discussion uses full English because there are no languages other than English that the native speaker can understand.

1. The first one is setting, the place when the conversation happens. It happened in EQWIP HUBs office, there is a rule and it says when the discussion starts all participants must use English to speak. So all participants should follow the rule.

2. Participant, each participant came from different regions from the Native she is Canadian and the rest of them are from Indonesia but different regions. Indonesia is a country that has many ethnic groups and has differences in language.

3. Keys, it focused on the way native and the participant are talking. They both already know and understand the topic especially the native, which is why she can speak so confidence without a doubt on this topic. Native convinced that women in her country are capable to do the men's job, so she hopes women in Indonesia dare to speak up and make themselves precious.

-The aspect of language choice in Indonesian

This research focuses on language choice, which includes three languages, namely English, Indonesian and Javanese. This chapter will discuss conversations that use Indonesian as a language of communication. Members B are the ones who most often use this language when talking to other members.

(1)

Member B : Eh mbak, kuliah di mana?
(eh mbak, which college do you study?)

Member D : Di U** mbak
*(in U** mbak)*

Member B : Loh aku alumni U** mbak Jurusan Bahasa Inggris
*(oh I am the alumni in U** mbak in English Department)*

Example of dialogue above happened between 2 members, member B and Member D. They use Indonesian to speak to each other. Member B is a member who starts a conversation first, she chooses to use Indonesian and Javanese but only a few words like 'ta' and 'toh'. Due to several reasons and certain situations.

1. First context is Participant, both of the members are from East Java. They can speak more than one language, Indonesian and Javanese. In this dialogue, they prefer to choose Indonesian rather than English or Javanese. Member B use Indonesian to start the conversation, she said *"Eh mbak, kuliah di mana?"*.

2. Act Sequence (Topic), they discussed where one of them went to college and it turns out they took the same university and faculty and then continued to ask questions about the lecturer teaching at the faculty. To reach an understanding of the topics discussed they use Indonesian.

-The aspect of language choice in Javanese

The next language is Javanese. This chapter will show some dialogues that contain Javanese conversations used by members to communicate.

(1)

Member A   : Apik yo Sumba ternyata
              (Sumba is beautiful)
Member B   : Iyo tapi aku moh nang kunu suwi-suwi

              (yeah but I won't be there for a long time)
Member A   : Haha.. lapo'o? panas yo?
              (Haha.. why? Very hot out there huh?)

Member A and Member B have a conversation in Javanese. They both known as a close friend and has known each other since in college. In the middle of discussion, they use Javanese in this conversation.
1. Participant, as explained at the beginning of the sentence the two of them are close friends. So it can be concluded that they master the same language and use daily language to speak.
2. Keys, member A and B are a close friend that is why member A tend to use Javanese instead of other languages, they use their daily language to speak can be seen from their intonation.

The aspect language choice in Mix-Languages
a. English – Indonesian

In the discussions that occur in this community, they not only focus on using one language but they also involve mixing their languages.

(1)

Native speaker   : So, who wants to share self-experience about our topic today girls?
Member A   : Ayo mbak-mbaknya it is okay cerita aja, gausa malu.
                    (C'mon guys it is okay just share, do not be shy)
Native   : Yeah guys I will try to understand what you are gonna say.
Member D   : Hehe iya.. em I have a neighbor, a spouse, well according to my opinion this is not fair and very rare case I think.

1. Setting, the settings can also affect their language choice because the setting is in the EQWIP office and conditions have entered into discussions about topics that have been determined. They should speak English as much as possible.
2. Participant, the conversation happened among four participants, member A, B, D, and native speaker. In the conversation, it can be concluded that member A and B are permanent members in the community and have a good way of speaking as well while member D is a new member so they use Indonesian when speaking with member D like this words *"Ayo mbak-mbaknya it is okay cerita aja, gausa malu."* and they change the language when they trying to explain to native

3. Ends, first is the native speaker want to hear about the other girls or members opinion about this topic. So she gives a question who wants to share, it is also to make members have courage to speak up. The second is when member B trying to clarify what is meant by member D.
b. English – Javanese

All members usually mix their language when speaking during the discussion. This time they use English and Javanese in their sentence.

(1)

Member B   : For example, Bu Risma. When the election event most people in Surabaya concern about what is going to happen when we have woman as a leader and people think women and men is not in the same level. Ngerti gak se rek maksudku? *(Do you understand what I mean?)*
All member : Ya ya..
Native   : Ya I understand what you saying. Umm.. you know I think it is a good point. Do you remember the US election last year? Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump.

1. Setting and Participant, in every dialogue in English there is always aspect in setting because it is the rule of community. While participants, at first member B use English in her statement. She explained what she knew about the election in Surabaya and what opinion of people about having woman as their mayor. She is using English because of native speaker and make the discussion alive.
2. Instrumentalities, in this section all participants use oral/verbal as their instrumentalities. Accents and dialects are also included in this aspect. Member B use Javanese accent and dialect in this sentence *"Ngerti gak se maksudku rek?"*. Usually the using of word "rek" is refers to friendship.
c. Indonesian – Javanese

These two languages use by members, mostly use before the discussion begin but sometimes they use in the middle of discussion.

(1)

Member A   : Eh mbak sampeyan kuliah dimana?
              (Hey where did you study?)
Member E   : Kuliah di UIN** mbak. (In UIN**)
Member A   : Oh angkatan berapa? *(Oh what year?)*
Member E   : Angkatan 2015. Mbaknya sudah lulus ya?
              (2015. are you graduated already?

Participant, member A and E just know each other so member A prefer to use Javanese when she asked member E. member A know that member E is from

east java like her so she thinks it polite to use word *"sampeyan"* as a Javanese language to start the conversation. Member E answered using Indonesian to respect member A as the older member.

1. Ends, each member has a specific purpose when chatting with the interlocutor. Like member A, she asked member E about her life and where member E is educated. She trying to approach new members by asking a few questions and make a conversation with them.

In conclusion, of the eight most dominant aspects are the participant and setting aspects, because this setting is in the EQWIP office so they have to use a predetermined language but sometimes the various participants have their first language which is their daily language so they use three languages at the same time and pay attention to the interlocutors as well.

Personal reason of using language choice by Members in 'Girls Night' event

This section discussed the reason why members use different language with different members. To find out the reason, the interviewing the subjects by Whatsapp application and take a screenshot as evidence. So, the researcher only asks questions to some members who are likely to have the same answer they are old member (member A&B) and new member (member C, D&E). The question was asked by asking one of the subjects in the group and drawing the conclusion that the other subjects might have the same reason

New member's reason

To find out their purpose and reason for using language choice include evidence of interview from the member concerned in the form of a chat screenshot.
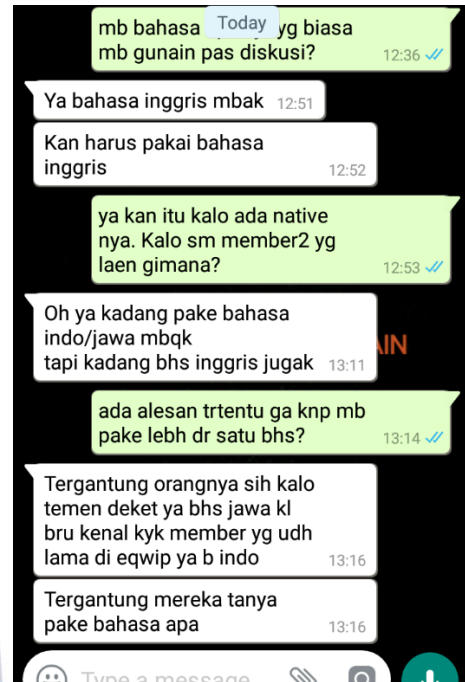

Image 4.1 Data Interview from Member E

The interview picture above is evidence of an interview with member E who is included in the new member in the community. She was asked what language she used when discussing at the 'girls' night' meeting, initially she answered *"Ya bahasa inggris mbak, kan harus pakai bahasa inggris"*(Yes using English, we have to be speak in English)→ means that in the discussion session must use English but when researcher asked her again what if she talked with other members then she answered sometimes using Indonesian, Javanese and sometimes English too. Followed by questions to ask the reason she uses different languages to each member. When she explained *"Tergantung orangnya sih kalo temen deket ya bahasa jawa kalo baru kenal kayak member yang udah lama di eqwip ya bahasa indo"*(It depends on with whom I talked, if close friend I use Javanese, if someone new I use Indonesian)→ it can conclude that this subject speak in different languages depends on her interlocutor.

-**Linguistic Features of Women Languages**

Women languages a little bit different with men. One of sociolinguistics aspect is about gender. In this community there are only women and there is no men in it. So what needs to be considered is how they convey their English language well to fellow women. Those features are *lexical hedges or fillers, tag question, rising intonation on declaratives, 'empty adjectives, precise color terms, intensifiers such as just and so, 'hypercorrect' grammar, 'superpolite' forms, avoidance of strong swear words,* and *emphatic stress*. All included and have some data except one feature, precise color terms.

1. Lexical Hedges or Filler

        The members tend to use more lexical hedges such as; hmm, uhh, well, you know in their utterance. Hedges are linguistic forms such as *I think, I'm sure, you know, sort of and perhaps*. Besides, there are many different ways of reducing the pressure illocutionary speech, and hedges done using several linguistic features.

(1)
Native   : So what is your perspective girls about this topic?
Member A   : **Uhh.. I think** this topic is very important to discuss maybe later we should talk about this kind of case more.

        The data above is taken from the conversation of the native and the member. It shows the member use lexical hedges. Member A use word **"Uhh.."** and **"I think"** two example of lexical hedges in one sentence to start they conversation.

Tag Question

    In this discussion Native and Member uncommon to use tag question. They use tag question to ask for confirmation. Some data shows some example of tag question in the dialogue.
(1)
Member D   : The temperature of the AC is too cold, **isn't it?**
Native   : Yes, sorry about that. I used to live in the cold weather.

        From the example above shows different tag question. The first conversation happened between member D and the native, she felt cold because of the AC was too cold and she talked to native. The statement, **"the temperature of the AC is too cold, isn't it?"** she hoped the native would understand that she did not strong enough to stay under the AC.

Empty Adjective

    The next feature is empty adjective. It usually use to express an emotion. For examples wonderful, great, nice, lovely.

(1)
Native   : Has anyone ever go to Sumba?
Member A   : No but I wanna go to Sumba one day. **It is wonderful out there.** There are beach, waterfall and wide field it is just like Africa.

        The sample of conversation above, they talked about the setting of the movie "Marlina the murderer in four acts" it was in Sumba, Nusa Tenggara Timur. Member A showed her enthusiasm for the region and the natural beauty possessed by Sumba. She expressed it using Empty Adjective **wonderful.**

Intensifier

    Intensifier usually use for strengthen a response for example so, very, totally, and awful.

(1)
Native   : Maybe this is what we meant by the Emancipation of Women because nowadays there are **so** many women who are able to work also as heads of household.

        Based on the dialogue above, it contains intensifier features. The first native statement use word **"so"** in her statement to strongly her statement.

Hypercorrect Grammar

    This section discuss the sentence of someone who uses grammar properly and correctly.
(1)
Member B   : When the election event most people in Surabaya concern about what is **going** to happen when we have woman as a leader and people think women and men is not in the same level

    Member B tend to use hypercorrect grammar in her statement for example the sentence "..what is going to happen.." she uses "going" not "goin'" in her sentence. Women usually wants to look good in front of others so they often use the right words. Member B speaks during the group discussion so he prefers to use that word.

Superpolite Form

    This section is almost have same like hypercorrect grammar. Superpolite form more towards a sentence than a word. Some data contains this feature.
(1)
Native   : Would you **please** click the on/off button?

    This data was taken before participants had a movie night, native was operating the personal computer and it needs to connect with the projector so she asked the member to help her. She prefers to use *"Would you please click the on/off button?"* sentence to make the imperative sentence sound smoother.

Avoidance of strong swear word

    In the data has been found some example of this feature. There are some sentence that include in avoidance of strong word features.

(1)
Member A   : **Oh my god!** She cut off his head.

The first dialogue above shows that member A use avoidance of strong word feature in her sentence. By expressing her shocked feeling of the scene in the movie. Member A does not use bad words in her conversation because commonly women do not use bad words to talk. They prefer to use different languages to express themselves.

Rising Intonation

This feature express a lot of expression, it can be hesitation, doubt, a question, politeness, insecurity and so on. In data that had been collected it found a various expression of this feature.

(1)

| Member A | : So what are you gonna do when you are **graduated?** Find a **job or married**? And if you are **married** are u gonna **find a job** or being a **housewife?** |
| Member C | : Well actually I want to find a job first and when I have a lot of money I'll be ready to **married.** |

The data above happened during the discussion, member A and C have a conversation about the activities that will be carried out by member C in the future. There found many of rising intonation in this conversation, first word is "graduated" here member A asked a question to member C and she use rising intonation feature.

Emphatic Stress

Emphatic stress usually an emotion to convince the interlocutor.

(1)

| Member A | : Oh we just talking about job. |
| Native | : Oh **that's great** and we are going to discuss about that. |

From the data above the native speaker using emphatic stress on her statement. To express her emotion about the topic that member A and her friend talking about. It turns out that the topic that night have something relation with what they talked. The native speaker is kind of humble person, she often use this feature when talking with all members.

Discussion
The aspects of SPEAKING acronym in language choice

The use of language in a community cannot be separated from sociolinguistic theories that refer to language choice and in what aspects they use language and to whom they use that language. The sociolinguistic perspective on language choice in EQWIP consists of eight component of speech events, the key elements of Hymes's speaking grids are stated as follows: Settings and scenes (place and speech situation), participants (speech participants), ends (speech objectives), act sequences (topics /

speech order), keys (speech tones), instrumentalities (speech facilities), norms (speech norms), and genre (type of speech). Almost all of these aspects are present and occur at the girls night discussion held by EQWIP, this speech event happened in this community and was carried out by all participants. The most dominant aspects are participants and setting. All members except native speaker use three languages in discussion meeting and they speak certain languages to the certain person/member in a certain situation

The reason of using language choice in 'Girls Night' event

The members are divided into 2 categorize, old member (member A&B) and new member (C, D and E). All members master three language, English, Indonesian and Javanese. What makes it different is the way they interpret and use each language. Each member has different language behavior. The dominant use of Javanese and Indonesian languages is a component found in this analysis. Also, in the conversation this event found two characteristics of the members' language at the 'Girls Night' event, namely the existence of code switching and code mixing, as well as the variety of languages used by members when communicating with each other is intimate variety. Based on the level of formality, Chaer (2004) divides the languages into solid, official, consultative, casual, and intimate. In this study, the variety used is intimate. Member A and B are more likely to be intimate because they are close friends and they use Javanese when speaking. They both can use both languages (Indonesian and Javanese) to members C, D and E.

Women's linguistic features

This research also discusses language and gender but only focuses on women's gender because events in this community are all women. So what is discussed is the characteristics in the language they use and what features are contained in their conversation. Lakoff (in Coates, 1986:112-113) provides a list of ten linguistic features which characterize women's speech: lexical hedges or filler, tag question, rising intonation on declarative, empty adjective, precise color terms, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, super polite forms, emphatic stress, and avoidance of strong swear word. This study found nine from ten features except precise color terms. The features most commonly found in the data are the lexical hedges / filler features, intensifier, empty adjective, and rising intonation.

CONCLUSION

This study shows the language choice among women in the community of EQWIP HUBs, all factors except Genre are found in this research. From the result it has been divided into 4 languages

such as English, Indonesian, Javanese, and mix languages. It found that the most dominant components are Setting and Participants, the rest appear only in a few conversations including Ends, Instrumentalities, Keys, Norms of Interaction, Act Sequence. Because the rule and the presence of the native speaker have a strong influence on the choice of language of members.

All participants use mixed languages especially the members, the languages used are English, Indonesian, and Javanese. They use different languages with aspects and factors which affect the choice of language and use it in some contexts and situations. The majority of the other events use Indonesian and Javanese in the form of debates about current subjects they prefer to use English. So, participant and ends are one of the factors most affecting the choice of language in this event.

Besides, this study also discusses the characteristics of the language used by women. What linguistic features are contained in their conversation or the data used. There are ten features based on Lakoff's theory, in this study researchers found nine of the ten features (Lexical hedges/Fillers, tag question, empty adjective, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, superpolite form, avoidance strong swear word, rising intonation and emphatic stress).

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