

CODE-SWITCHING USED IN THE SERIES “EMILY IN PARIS SEASON 5

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Abstrak

Rapid globalization has increased interaction between individuals from different cultural backgrounds, resulting in the phenomenon of *code-switching* as part of the life of a multilingual society in sociolinguistic, including in audiovisual media such as films and television series. One of the series that shows this phenomenon is *Emily in Paris*, especially in the fifth season, which presents interaction between characters from various language backgrounds, namely English, French, and Italian. The problem in this study is that it is not widely known in detail how the type and function of code switching used by the characters in the series, as well as how their use reflects the identity and social relationships between the characters. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the types and functions of code switching contained in *Emily in Paris* Season 5 and its role in reflecting identities and interactions between characters. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method by referring to the classification of types of code switching by Poplack (1980), namely intra-sentence, inter-sentence, and tag code switching, as well as the theory of code-switching functions by Myers-Scotton (1993). Data was obtained through observation techniques and documentation of the dialogues of the characters in the series. The results showed that all three types of code switching appeared in the analyzed data, with inter-sentence code switching being the most dominant type. Functionally, code switching in this series plays a role in marking social relationships, reflecting cultural identity, and adjusting communicative goals between characters according to the context of interaction.

Keywords: Sociolinguistic, Code-Switching, Series.

Abstract

Globalisasi yang semakin pesat telah meningkatkan interaksi antarindividu dari berbagai latar belakang budaya, sehingga memunculkan fenomena alih kode sebagai bagian dari kehidupan masyarakat multilingual dalam kajian sosiolinguistik, termasuk dalam media audiovisual seperti

Article History

Received: Juni 2026
Reviewed: Juni 2026
Published: Juni 2026
Plagiarism Checker: No
235.223.443

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Publish by : Argopuro



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film dan serial televisi. Salah satu serial yang menampilkan fenomena tersebut adalah Emily in Paris, khususnya pada musim kelima, yang menghadirkan interaksi antartokoh dengan latar belakang bahasa yang beragam, yaitu bahasa Inggris, Prancis, dan Italia. Permasalahan dalam penelitian ini adalah belum banyak diketahui secara rinci bagaimana jenis dan fungsi alih kode yang digunakan oleh para tokoh dalam serial tersebut, serta bagaimana penggunaannya mencerminkan identitas dan hubungan sosial antartokoh. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis jenis dan fungsi alih kode yang terdapat dalam Emily in Paris Musim 5 serta perannya dalam merefleksikan identitas dan interaksi antartokoh. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan mengacu pada klasifikasi jenis alih kode oleh Poplack (1980), yaitu alih kode intra-kalimat (intra-sentential), antar-kalimat (inter-sentential), dan tag switching, serta teori fungsi alih kode oleh Myers-Scotton (1993). Data diperoleh melalui teknik observasi dan dokumentasi terhadap dialog para tokoh dalam serial tersebut. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa ketiga jenis alih kode muncul dalam data yang dianalisis, dengan alih kode antar-kalimat (inter-sentential code-switching) sebagai jenis yang paling dominan. Secara fungsional, alih kode dalam serial ini berperan dalam menandai hubungan sosial, merefleksikan identitas budaya, serta menyesuaikan tujuan komunikatif antartokoh sesuai dengan konteks interaksi.

Keywords : Sociolinguistik, alih kode, Serial.

Introduction

As globalization grows, communication between individuals becomes much more common. Technological developments, human mobility, and global connectivity have made interactions between individuals from different cultural backgrounds increasingly frequent. These interactions highlight the importance of sociolinguistics, a branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between language and society. According to (Romaine, 2000) sociolinguistics is a field that combines the perspectives of linguistics and sociology to examine the relationship between language and society, particularly the social context of linguistic diversity. In this situation, the ability to speak more than one language is crucial for effective communication. Language serves not only as a tool for conveying information, but also as a means of expressing one's social and cultural identity. These conditions have led to the emergence of bilingualism and multilingualism in the daily lives of modern society. One phenomenon that frequently appears in this context is code-switching, which refers to the shift

in language use within a single conversation that reflects the social and linguistic dynamics of the speakers.

The phenomenon of code-switching has long been a focus of study in sociolinguistics due to the complexity of language use in bilingual and multilingual communities. Generally, code-switching can be defined as the alternation between two or more languages or language varieties within a single conversation or utterance. Crystal (1987) argues that code switching, or language switching, occurs when a bilingual individual alternates between two languages during a conversation with another bilingual person. Relationships between speakers in a communicative context generally influence code-switching, such as the speakers' status, the level of formality of the social situation, the function of language use, and the purpose of the communication (Inuwa, Christopher , & Bakrin, 2014).

This definition shows that code switching is not only related to linguistic aspects but also has strong sociological dimensions. Therefore, this phenomenon cannot be understood solely from the structure of the language itself, but also from the context in which it is used.

Poplack (1980) divides *code switching* into three main types, namely *intra-sentential switching*, *inter-sentential switching*, and *tag switching*. Intra-sentence switching occurs when language shifts occur within the same sentence, requiring a good grasp of the structures of both languages. Meanwhile, inter-sentential switching occurs at the boundary between sentences, where one sentence uses one language and the next uses another. Tag switching, on the other hand, involves inserting words or short phrases, such as tags or special expressions, from another language into the main sentence. This classification helps researchers identify more regular patterns of language use across various communication contexts.

In addition to its various forms, code switching also has various functions in communication that reflect the speaker's goals and intentions. According to Carol Myers-Scotton (1993), the use of code switching can serve to mark the social relationship between speakers and their interlocutors through the Signifying Model. This relates to how they position themselves, fulfill their roles, and respond to rights and obligations in a social context. In practice, speakers may switch languages to adapt to a situation, show solidarity, or create social distance. Furthermore, code switching is often used to emphasize a particular meaning, express emotion, or clarify an intended message. In informal contexts, this phenomenon can even serve as a way to foster a sense of familiarity in conversation. Thus, the functions of code switching are diverse and depend on the speaker's communicative needs.

Along with the development of global media, the phenomenon of code switching is not only found in everyday communication, but is also often shown in films and television series. Media productions often depict bilingual or multilingual characters to reflect real-life social

interactions in multicultural environments. In this context, code-switching serves various narrative functions, such as establishing character identities, highlighting their cultural backgrounds, and creating more authentic depictions of communication. The use of multiple languages in audiovisual media also allows viewers to observe how language choices are influenced by social relationships, emotions, and situational contexts. Therefore, films and television series can be considered relevant sources for studying code-switching from both linguistic and sociocultural perspectives.

One television series that depicts code-switching is *Emily in Paris*, particularly in its final seasons. The series features interactions between characters from different cultural backgrounds, involving the use of both English and French in the same conversation. This language switching reflects the characters' communication needs, identities, and social relationships.

A previous study conducted by (Agustini, Savitri, & Darma, 2024) examined English-French code switching used by the main character in *Emily in Paris*. The study aimed to identify the types and functions of code switching by applying the framework proposed by Appel and Muysken (2005). However, this research primarily focuses on one character and does not extensively explore the broader social context or variations among different characters.

This study aims to address this gap by analysing code switching in Season 5 of *Emily in Paris*, focusing on its types, functions, and its role in reflecting characters' identities and interactions.

Research Methodology

This study employs a qualitative descriptive research design to investigate the phenomenon of code-switching used in the series *Emily in Paris* Season 5. A qualitative descriptive approach is considered appropriate because this study focuses on describing and interpreting language phenomena in social interactions rather than measuring them statistically. The study aims to identify the types of code-switching and analyze their functions as they occur in the conversations among the characters in the series. The analysis is based on the classification of code-switching types proposed by Poplack (1980) and the functions of code-switching proposed by Myers-Scotton (1993).

The data source of this study is the television series *Emily in Paris* Season 5. The primary data consist of utterances containing code-switching produced by the characters throughout the series. The data were obtained from the official episodes of *Emily in Paris* Season 5 accessed through the official streaming platform. Since the series mainly involves interactions in English and French, the researcher focused on utterances that demonstrate language alternation between these languages.

Data were collected using observation and documentation techniques. The researcher watched all episodes of *Emily in Paris* Season 5 repeatedly to understand the context of the conversations and identify utterances containing code-switching. Subsequently, relevant utterances were documented, transcribed, and compiled from the available subtitles and dialogues. The data collection process was conducted through several stages. First, the researcher watched each episode comprehensively to understand the context of the interactions among the characters. Second, utterances containing code-switching were

identified and selected. Third, the identified utterances were transcribed and recorded in a data classification table. Finally, the collected data were categorized according to the types of code-switching to facilitate further analysis.

The data were analyzed using qualitative descriptive analysis. The analysis was conducted in several steps. First, the researcher identified utterances containing code-switching in *Emily in Paris* Season 5. Second, the identified utterances were classified based on Poplack's (1980) categories of code-switching, namely intersentential switching, intrasentential switching, and tag switching. Third, the researcher analyzed the functions of code-switching in each utterance using Myers-Scotton's (1993) theory. Fourth, the findings were interpreted by considering the conversational context underlying the use of code-switching. Finally, conclusions were drawn to answer the research questions and to explain the patterns of code-switching found in the series.

To ensure the reliability of the analysis, the researcher repeatedly reviewed the classified data and re-examined the utterances by comparing them with the original audiovisual materials and subtitles. Furthermore, the findings were continuously checked against the theoretical frameworks proposed by Poplack (1980) and Myers-Scotton (1993) to maintain consistency and accuracy in data interpretation.

1. Research Method

This study uses a qualitative descriptive approach to examine the phenomenon of code switching contained in *the Emily in Paris* Season 5 series. This approach was chosen because the research focuses on understanding and interpreting the use of language in social contexts as well as communication between figures. The analysis was carried out by referring to the classification of the type of code transfer proposed by Poplack (1980) as well as the code transfer function based on the Myers-Scotton (1993) theory.

2. Time and Place of research

This research was carried out from April to June 2026. Research activities are carried out in the campus environment, library, and the researcher's residence as locations that support the data collection and analysis process. The main data source in the form of *the Emily in Paris* Season 5 series was obtained and studied through digital media. All stages of research, from data identification, speech classification, to code transfer analysis, were carried out by researchers using various available reference sources

3. Object/Source of Research data

The object of this research is speech containing *code-switching* in *the series Emily in Paris* Season 5. The source of research data is in the form of dialogues spoken by the characters in the series, especially speech that shows the transition between English and French. Data was obtained from the *Emily in Paris* Season 5 episode which was accessed through the official viewing platform.

4. Data Collection Techniques

Data collection in this study was carried out through observation and documentation techniques. Observation was made by watching all episodes of *Emily in Paris* Season 5 repeatedly to identify speech that contained code switching between English and French. Meanwhile, documentation techniques are used to record, copy, and organize relevant speech from available subtitles and transcripts. The data collection process is carried out

through several stages. First, the researcher watched each episode to understand the context of the conversation between the characters. Second, the researcher identified speech that showed language switching. Third, the speech that has been found is transcribed and recorded into a data table. Fourth, the collected data is grouped by type of code transfer to facilitate the analysis process at the next stage.

5. Data Analysis Technique

The data that has been collected is analyzed using qualitative descriptive analysis techniques. The analysis was carried out through several stages, namely: (1) identifying speech that contains code switching in the *Emily in Paris* Season 5 series; (2) group the speech based on the type of code transfer found; (3) analyze the code switching function that appears in each speech; (4) interpret the results of the analysis based on the context of the conversation behind the use of code switching; and (5) draw conclusions based on the findings obtained to answer the formulation of the research problem

6. Research Instruments

The instruments used in this study include laptops, internet access, serial subtitles, data classification tables, as well as various scientific references related to code-switching and sociolinguistics, such as book and relevant journal article. These instruments are used to assist in the process of collecting, grouping, and analyzing data so that research can be carried out systematically and in a targeted manner.

Research Result And Discussion

This section presents and discusses the findings of the study concerning the use of code-switching in *Emily in Paris* Season 5. The analysis focuses on identifying the types of code-switching employed by the characters and examining their functions in the conversational context. The data were analyzed based on Poplack's (1980) classification of code-switching, which consists of intersentential switching, intrasentential switching, and tag switching. In addition, the functions of code-switching were analyzed using Myers-Scotton's (1993) theory. The findings reveal that all types of code-switching occur in the series, reflecting the multilingual and multicultural interactions among the characters. The detailed analysis of each datum is presented below.

Result of the Research

Datum 1

"gotta get ready for work but, achete du pain et du fromage"

The phrase "I have to get ready for work but, achete du pain et du fromage" indicates the code switching from English to French in the same utterance. Based on Poplack's classification, this utterance falls under the type of intra-sentence code switching. In this speech example, the first clause "gotta get ready for work" is spoken entirely in English, then marked by the conjunction "but" as a link, and immediately followed by the clause "achete du pain et du fromage" which is entirely in French. This language transition occurs in a single complete compound sentence, not in a stand-alone intersentence transition. This is the main

reason why this speech is categorized as intra-sentential code switching, because language switching occurs at the meeting point between clauses in one unit of sentence, so the speaker must master the grammar of both languages simultaneously so that the sentence structure remains grammatical at the switching point.

Datum 2

“so yeah, the next time we see each other can we just say, “bonjour, s’il te plaît?”

This sentence consists of the main English clause ("So yes, the next time we see each other can we just say...") which is then followed by a French greeting phrase ("Bonjour, s'il te plaît") which serves as the object of direct quotation. The phrase falls under the tag-switching type.

The main clause is in English with a complete grammatical structure, while "Bonjour, s'il te plaît" is just a short idiomatic greeting phrase inserted as a direct quote. This phrase can be removed without grammatically damaging the English sentence, so that it does not merge syntactically into the parent clause (as opposed to intra-sentential), and does not occur at the limit of two full sentences (as opposed to inter-sentential).

Datum 3

“livia: emily your beautiful shoes are ruined, marcello what were you thinking? i would have brought your boots.

marcello: ill take you shopping tomorrow for another pair

emily: its fine, ill go see if your mom needs any help in the kitchen.

livia: emily e carina. ma cosa sai davvero di lei? (to marcello) “

This data includes inter-sentential code-switching, which is the switching of language that occurs at the boundary of a sentence, rather than within the same sentence. The main marker: Livia's first sentence ("Emily your beautiful shoes are ruined...") is full of intact English grammatical structures, while the second sentence ("Emily è carina. And what about the Democrats?") The Italian language is full of intact Italian grammatical structures. There is no mixing of lexical or grammatical elements of the two languages in the same clause.

Datum 4

“excusiz-moi, monsieur. L `addition, s `il vous plait”. “he didn `t wanna serve us, now he doesn `t want us to leave”

The data is classified as inter-sentence code switching based on Poplack's (1980) classification. The speaker first uses French, "Excusez-moi, monsieur. L'addition, s'il vous plaît," to greet the waiter and then switches to English, "He didn't want to serve us, now he doesn't want us to leave." The switch occurs between complete sentences, indicating a change from

one language to another at the sentence boundary. This switch also reflects a change in the recipient of the message and the communicative purpose: French is used to communicate with the waiter, while English is used to convey a comment or complaint to the speaker's friend. Therefore, the data is an example of inter-sentence code switching.

Datum 5

“sono un suo grandissimo ammiratore. What a pleasure”.

The data is categorised as intersentential code-switching based on Poplack's (1980) classification. The speaker first uses Italian in the sentence "Sono un suo grandissimo ammiratore" and then switches to English in the following sentence, "What a pleasure." The language shift occurs at the sentence boundary, which is the defining characteristic of intersentential code-switching. The switch may serve to emphasise the speaker's admiration and positive emotion while creating a more expressive and natural interaction. Therefore, this datum is classified as intersentential code-switching.

CONCLUSION

Based on an analysis of five speech datasets in Emily in Paris Season 5, it was found that all three types of code switching proposed by Poplack (1980) appeared in the series: intra-sentence code switching, inter-sentence code switching, and tag code switching. Of the five datasets described, inter-sentence code switching was found to be the most prevalent, occurring in Data 3, 4, and 5, where language changes occur at the boundaries between grammatically complete sentences, such as transitions from English to Italian or from French to English. Meanwhile, intra-sentence code switching was found in Data 1, which shows language shifts within the same compound sentence, and tag code switching in Data 2, which involves the insertion of short French phrases as direct quotations.

Functionally, based on Myers-Scotton's (1993) theory, the use of code switching in the series plays a role in marking social relationships between characters while reflecting each character's cultural identity. In Datum 4, for example, the switch from French to English indicates a change in interlocutor and communicative purpose, from greeting a waiter to conveying a complaint to the interlocutor. In Datum 5, code-switching is used to express admiration and positive emotions more expressively. These findings suggest that code-switching in Emily in Paris Season 5 functions not only as a linguistic strategy but also as a means of establishing authenticity in intercultural interactions, affirming character identity, and adapting language style to the social context and interlocutor.

Thus, this study successfully addresses the research question regarding the types and functions of code-switching that appear in Emily in Paris Season 5, while also expanding the findings of previous research (Agustini, Savitri, & Darma, 2024) by focusing not only on one main character but also encompassing interactions between characters more broadly. This research is expected to contribute to

sociolinguistic studies, particularly in understanding the phenomenon of code-switching in multicultural audiovisual media, as well as opening opportunities for further research to explore code-switching in other series or films with more diverse cultural backgrounds.

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