

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**RURAL PRIMARY SCHOOL ESL TEACHERS' CODE
SWITCHING PRACTICES IN THE PADAWAN
DISTRICT OF SARAWAK**

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for the degree of
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DEDICATION

In memory of my late mother and my pillar of strength, Madam Evelyn Landing who had heard so much about my work on this dissertation but never get to live long enough to see it completed. *I love you and miss you every day, mak.*

ABSTRACT

This study aims to find out the purpose, extent and why ESL teachers code switch in the predominant Bidayuh populated primary schools in the Padawan district in Sarawak. Thirty primary schools participated in the study. Data were collected using questionnaire and interview techniques. Three sets of questionnaire were distributed to each of these schools and a total of 84 ESL teachers had returned the completed forms; a return rate of 85.7%. Data were analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The findings revealed that ESL teachers code switch in the classroom for various purposes and at varying degrees. However, despite the fact that the majority of the pupils and teachers in these schools are Bidayuh, the findings revealed that the teachers hardly code switch to the Bidayuh dialect which is the pupils' first language, instead they code switch to Bahasa Malaysia, the other formal language that the pupils learned in school. On the teachers' perception for the reasons for code switching, the result supported previous studies on the various functions for code switching in the classroom domain. Based on the findings, this study recommends that code switching be allowed in the ESL classroom for the purpose of facilitating the teaching and learning process especially in schools in the rural areas. It also hopes to contribute to future research in the field.

ABSTRAK

Kajian ini dijalankan untuk mengetahui tujuan, setakat mana dan kenapa pertukaran bahasa atau 'code switching' digunakan oleh guru-guru yang mengajar Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua di sekolah rendah di daerah Padawan, Sarawak di mana kebanyakan pelajarinya adalah berbangsa Bidayuh. Tiga puluh buah sekolah rendah telah terlibat dalam kajian ini. Data kajian diperolehi dengan menggunakan teknik soal selidik dan temubual. 3 set soal selidik telah ditadbirkan secara rawak dan sejumlah 84 guru Bahasa Inggeris telah memulang kembali borang soal selidik yang telah dilengkapkan; dengan dapatan balik sebanyak 85.7%. Data telah dianalisa dengan menggunakan statistik deskripsi dan inferensi. Dapatan kajian menunjukkan bahawa guru Bahasa Inggeris menggunakan 'Code Switching' di dalam kelas Bahasa Inggeris untuk beberapa tujuan pengajaran dan pembelajaran dan pada takat yang berbeza. Walau bagaimanapun, didapati majoriti pelajar dan guru di sekolah ini walaupun terdiri daripada kaum Bidayuh, para guru tidak 'code switch' kepada bahasa ibunda pelajar iaitu dialek Bidayuh tetapi kepada Bahasa Malaysia, yang merupakan bahasa penghantar yang digunakan di sekolah. Tentang persepsi guru berkenaan sebab-sebab mengapa 'code switching' digunakan, respons yang diterima menyokong dapatan daripada kajian-kajian sebelum ini tentang fungsi-fungsi 'code switching' di domain bilik darjah. Berdasarkan dapatan yang diterima, kajian ini menyarankan 'code switching' dibenarkan semasa proses pengajaran dan pembelajaran kerana ianya boleh memudahkan proses tersebut, terutama sekali bagi sekolah-sekolah di kawasan luar bandar. Dapatan daripada kajian ini diharap dapat menyumbang kepada kajian lain dalam bidang yang sama pada masa hadapan.

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I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This topic has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

In the event that my thesis is found to violate the conditions mentioned above, I voluntarily waive the right of conferment of my degree and agree to be subjected to the disciplinary rules and regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA.

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