

ABSTRACT

This research examines the linguistic and social constraints attributed to language switching, as well as the conversational functions of code switching (CS) found in the interaction between participants in three shows, namely, the *Wowowee*, *The Buzz* and the *Pilipinas Got Talent* (PGT) in the Philippines.

The grammatical patterns of these shows are analyzed using Muysken's (2000) typology with the broad framework of 'Systemic Functional Grammar' based on Foley's (2011) and Bautista's (2000) Philippines grammatical features and for the functions, Gumperz (1982) and Bautista's (1999) typology. The outcome of the analysis, depending on the social class of the participants, shows that the switching varies. For example, it is found that participants that come from a lower level of society with lower education switch but normally in lower level item constituents, while those who are educated and come from a higher level of society switch by using long utterances or clauses. Besides the social and educational background, the settings, gender, and the age of the participants are created constraints on CS. Furthermore, regardless of the interaction in the media domain, it is found that interlocutors create strategies when there are communicative difficulties in interaction that is by using CS. The metaphorical/idiomatic expressions, as well as the conversational functions such as, addressee specification, reiteration, message clarification, personalization versus objectification, expressions and emotions and interjections, are found used by the participants of the shows.

The researcher's recommendation is that CS could be a rich communicative goal in the classroom. Educators therefore should not consider code-switching and code-mixing as an obstruction to learning but consider it as a positive model where

students can express themselves in the language of the community at large. Lastly, because variation in language is natural, normal and continuous further studies into code-switching and its effects on education especially through the role of the media would be an obvious area to explore.