Department of Arabic Language
Summarized by: Rezki Zeyneb

SOCIOLINGUISTICS: Part Two

Code-switching

• **Code-switching** is a term in linguistics referring to alternation between two or more languages, dialects, or language registers in a conversation.

1. **Tag switching** is also called 'extra-sentential switching'. It refers to the ability of integrating some words or expressions from the (language B) into (language A) such as: well, ok, good, d'accord ? (in French)… etc, eg. I'll be there at 8.00, **d'accord!**

2. **Inter-sentential switching**: refers to the alternation of two or more linguistic codes between sentences in a conversation, eg. I'm fine, **und die**? (und die: and you?) German.

3. **Intra-sentential switching:** occurs when a speaker of a given language alternates between two or more languages (or language varieties) among words (and/or phrases) and within the sentence, eg. Je peux s'exprimer en français **y en español**"

"… et en espagnol"

Jargon

• A special language belonging exclusively to a group, often a profession. Engineers, lawyers, doctors, tax analysts, and the like all use jargon to exchange complex information efficiently.

Slang

• Non-standard vocabulary of extreme informality, usually not limited to any region. It includes newly coined words, shortened forms, and standard words used playfully out of their usual context. Slang then, is drawn from the vocabularies of limited groups.

Monolingualism

• Monolingualism: Using or knowing only one language (Mother tongue for native speakers mainly).

Bilingualism

• Ability to speak two languages. It may be acquired early by children in regions where most adults speak two languages (e.g., French and dialectal German in Alsace). A second language can be acquired in school and children may also become bilingual by learning languages in two different social settings. Accordingly, *Bilingualism* can refer to the use of two languages in teaching, especially to foster learning in students trying to learn a new language.

Multilingualism

• A **multilingual** person, in the broadest definition, is anyone who can communicate in more than one language, be it active (through speaking and writing) or passive (through listening and reading). More specifically, the terms **bilingual** and **trilingual** are used to describe comparable situations in which two or three languages are involved.

• Multilingualism could be rigidly defined as being *native-like* in two or more languages. It could also be defined as being *less than native-like* but still able to communicate in two or more languages.

Ref.