

CODE-SWITCHING AND TEACHING CHINESE AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

语码转换与汉语教学

郑林著



北京大学出版社
PEKING UNIVERSITY PRESS

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

语码转换与汉语教学 =Code-switching and Teaching Chinese as a Second Language: 英文/郑林著. —北京: 北京大学出版社, 2013.3

ISBN 978-7-301-22060-3

I. ①语… II. ①郑… III. ①儿童语言—语言表达—语言艺术—研究—英文 ②对外汉语教学—儿童教育—研究—英文 IV. ①H003 ②H195

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2013)第022499号

书 名：语码转换与汉语教学

Code-switching and Teaching Chinese as a Second Language

著作责任者：郑 林 著

责任 编辑：孙 娴

标 准 书 号：ISBN 978-7-301-22060-3/H·3244

出 版 发 行：北京大学出版社

地 址：北京市海淀区成府路205号 100871

网 址：<http://www.pup.cn> 新浪官方微博：@北京大学出版社

电 子 信 箱：zpup@pup.pku.edu.cn

电 话：邮购部 62752015 发行部 62750672

编辑部 62753027 出版部 62754962

印 刷 者：三河市博文印刷厂

经 销 者：新华书店

650毫米×980毫米 16本 18印张 348千字

2013年3月第1版 2013年3月第1次印刷

定 价：45.00元

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导 读

语码转换从20世纪80年代开始吸引了越来越多研究者的目光。研究者们,如Gumperz和他的学生们,令人信服地证明语码转换既不是偶然的也不是任意的,而常常是表明语言符号与使用者之间的关系以及互动的一种状态。他们同时认为语码转换对于对话参与者的性格是高敏感度的,可以用来支持各种各样的语言交际功能。这样的研究还在继续发展。语言学家们现在意识到语码转换的研究能够极大地帮助人们了解社会进程和语言形态之间的关系。

虽然英语是全球应用最广泛的语言,但是汉语在全球拥有最多的母语人群,世界上超过五分之一的人口说汉语。当中国已经成为世界上举足轻重的国家时,它的语言正在更广泛地扩散开来,部分原因是大批居住在北美洲、欧洲和澳洲移民们的推广。

本书是在针对澳洲墨尔本地区三所小学的儿童长达四个月个别访谈的基础上写出的。这三所学校各有代表性:一所学校开设中文课,一所学校开设西班牙语课,而另一所学校没有开设外语课。这些儿童都是第一代或者第二代华裔移民的汉英双语使用者,在汉英两个语言世界中生活。在汉英语码转换研究的框架之下,有两个最基本的问题:(1)这些双语儿童在他们的汉语学习中拥有什么资源?(2)他们以前的汉语学习经历是如何影响他们的汉语表达的?

本书旨在探索语码转换的本质,进一步完善当前对汉英语码转换的解释,并据此提出相应的对外汉语教学策略。在探索这些双语儿童进行语码转换的决定因素的同时,本书重点考察了语码转换与声调、语法结构、语言交际功能,以及双语儿童的社会背景和教育背景等之间的关系。这些研究结果将为汉语作为第二语言的教师们提供一个全新的教学视角,有助于他们的教学实践,同时也有助于决策者制定合理的语言政策。

郑 林

2012年11月

于澳大利亚墨尔本

Preface

This book aims to explore the nature of code-switching. The purpose is to find out how this works and thereby inform language-teaching strategies. It focuses on Chinese / English bilinguals with a special emphasis on younger students living in two linguistic worlds (Chinese and English). This book explores the determinants of code-switching between English and Chinese among Chinese-Australian bilingual children. It examines code-switching in relation to several aspects: grammatical structures, tonal facilitation, contextual factors, speakers' social background aspects and their participation in school language programs.

The book is based on an analysis of interviews conducted in Melbourne over a four-month period at three schools: one that taught Chinese, one which taught Spanish and a third which did not teach any languages other than English. Two of the questions that are addressed in the basic research were: (1) what resources are these children bringing into their study of Chinese, and (2) how is their formal study of Chinese affecting their actual speech? These questions are considered within the study of switching between Mandarin Chinese and English among children of Chinese speaking migrants. Among the children are both first and second generation bilinguals.

Code-switching (CS) has only since the 1980s attracted a sustained attention from researchers. Researchers such as Gumperz and his students subsequently demonstrated that CS was not random or haphazard but rather subject to pragmatic and interactional conditioning. They also suggested it was highly sensitive to the characteristics of the participants and could be used to support a variety of conversational functions. Such research has continued to grow. Linguists now realise that the study of CS can contribute greatly to understanding the relationship between social processes and linguistic forms, firstly as a variable phenomenon, it forces any grammar to be defined with sufficient depth to capture such cross-language switching; and secondly, it prompts a search for universal linguistic categories.

Code-switching and Teaching Chinese as a Second Language

While English is the most widely used language in the world, Chinese is spoken by more than twenty per cent of the earth's population, a greater number of native speakers than any other language. With China's emergence as a significant global presence, its language proliferates ever more widely—helped in part by large immigrant communities of Chinese in North America, Europe and Australia. In this regard understanding code-switching provides new insights into how the teaching of Chinese as a second language. This book will draw out research insights that can inform teaching practices and language policies. More specifically, the design of educational strategies for language learning; the role code-switching plays in enabling individuals to navigate between two cultures; and the very nature of the mechanisms that enable code switching can all be informed by a careful analysis of code-switching.

Lin Zheng

Melbourne, Australia

November 2012

Acknowledgements

I am deeply indebted to Professor Michael Clyne (1939–2010) for introducing me to the study of code-switching and then giving thorough commentson each section. It would not have been possible without his support and encouragement.

Many thanks to Richard Volpato for his valuable feedback on the structure of the book and some of the statistics it reports; to Wei Ha for his very helpful discussions.

The thirty children, their parents, teachers and principals at the three primary schools in Victoria, Australia deserve special thanks for allowing me to conduct the interviews. I cherish the time working together with them.

I would acknowledge the strong support and great help of Ms Sun Xian of Peking University Press.

Finally I would like to give my very many thanks to the School of International and Political Studies, and the Teaching and Learning Committee of the Faculty of Arts and Education of Deakin University for their generous financial support to make the publication possible.

List of Abbreviations

CA	conversational analysis
Chn.	Chinese
-cl	classifier
CP	the projection of the complementizer
-crs	a category of suffix
CS	code switching
dur-	the durative prefix
-dur	the durative suffix
EL	embedded language
-gen	the genitive morpheme
Lin	field worker
ML	matrix language
MLF	Matrix Language Frame
-noms	the nominalising particle
-perf	the perfective suffix
pg-	progressive tense
Q	question
SA1	Session A (1)
SA2	Session A (2)
SA3	Session A (3)
SB1	Session B (1)
SB2	Session B (2)
SB3	Session B (3)
SC1	Session C (1)
SC2	Session C (2)
SD1	Session D (1)
SD2	Session D (2)
SD3	Session D (3)

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