

Foreign Influence Factors Affecting Language Change

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Abstract:

Language change is the phenomenon by which permanent alterations are made in a language's features and use over time. In this study, the method used is a literature review, wherein in this study, researchers take references from various reading sources such as books, journals, and others. This study aims to determine the influence of foreign on language change in a region. Interaction with other persons who speak a different language causes language shift. Language contact refers to interactions between languages that can be caused by a variety of causes such as social, technological, cultural, political, and foreign influences, either intentionally or unintentionally. People's idea that a country should have more than one language is weakened by outside influence. Depending on their demands, they will eventually speak more than one language. The level of foreign influence on a society's language evolution is measured by language borrowing. The term "language change" refers to a shift in a community's primary language that causes people to leave or change it (the mother tongue). As a result of foreign impact factors, this language change appears to be influenced.

Keywords: Language change, Language borrowing, Language shift, Foreign influence

INTRODUCTION

Language change is a phenomenon that occurs in a language over time. These changes can occur gradually and can be caused by the dominance of one dialect over another, official control, or the invasion of other language groups. While some languages have changed slightly over time, many more, such as English, are unrecognizable compared to older versions (Utami et al., 2021).

Language shift in linguistics is the ability of language to communicate about something that is not directly present spatially or temporally, something that is not in place or not in place at the present moment (Rahman & Ja'afar, 2018). Language shift concerns the problem of using language by a speaker or a group of speakers that can occur due to moving from one

speech community to another. A foreign language is a language that is not commonly used by people living in a particular area: for example, Indonesian is considered a foreign language in Australia.

Language change is done when there is no suitable word to express or give a name to something or something new or unfamiliar from the mind and culture in a particular region. This is due to the development of the world of science. Even if there are words in the area, they may not be appropriate and do not match the meaning (Handrianto, Jusoh, Goh & Rashid, 2021). The words may also be old or worn out and no longer suitable. Vocabulary from other words had to be borrowed because the users did not know the existence of the related words in the language. Even though the words are in their language, the user may fail to remember or look for them when they want to use them. The loan was made to facilitate efforts to design and develop languages in the region. In that way, too, the status of the language can be improved as a modern language. After that, there will be a brief discussion on whether these changes occur for the right or wrong reason. The conclusion will then be drawn to support the thesis statement.

DISCUSSION

Language Change

Refnaldi (2017) explains that language change is caused by the differential spread of linguistic variations distributed throughout the linguistic repertoires of communicatively engaged individuals in a given community. Furthermore, Michael (2015) asserts that language change is socially mediated in two ways. For starters, because language change is a socio-epidemiological process that occurs by spreading some part of communicative practice across socially organized networks, the organization of social groupings can influence how variants spread. For example, it is well known that tightly connected social networks are resistant to innovations, whereas sparsely connected ones are more open to them. Second, social and cultural factors, such as language ideology, might support the spread of specific variations at the expense of others in specific circumstances, thereby contributing to language change.

It can be concluded that the language change is a socio-epidemiological process that spreads some part of communicative practice across socially organized networks (Siang, Nurdin & Robinson, 2019; Ibrahim et al., 2021). Language change is socially mediated in two ways. The organization of social groupings can influence how variants spread. Second, social and cultural factors, such as language ideology, might support the spread of specific variations at the expense of others in specific circumstances.

Factors of Language Change

Thomanson (2003) claims in some ways, most of what the historical linguists understand about "language change" is due to contact. Therefore, Graddol (2004) states that language change factors are created by demographic changes, new technology, and international communication, and this situation will impact spoken communication and written (Tiara et al., 2021). Many variables that influence language change, such as political factors, technology factors, social factors, and foreign influence factors (Mantri, 2010). Based on the researchers' statements above, contact causes language change. Contact denotes a link between languages, which can be created purposefully or involuntarily by a variety of variables such as social, cultural technology, politics, or foreign influence.

A language changes or shifts due to a lack of maintenance in the language. The most significant factor is the community or society itself. Fasold (1984) states that language maintenance is dependent on the long-term, collective results of language by members of the community. Language shift occurs when people of a community decide to learn a new language as a group, and the community decides not to use the previously utilized language. According

to him, migration, industrialization, economic developments, teaching medium, government pressure, and urbanization contribute to language shift.

Foreign Influence Factors Affecting Language Change

In his chapter on "How Languages Impact One Another," Edward Sapir's *Linguistic* (1921) reemphasized the importance of language interaction and influence. He witnessed how the Chinese swamped Korean and Japanese with vocabulary and how English borrowed many productive words and affixes from French, but no examples were given. The study of loanwords gives a fascinating glimpse into the history of civilizations worldwide. Classical Chinese, Sanskrit, Arabic, Greek, and Latin are the five most influential languages as cultural transmitters. The way a language responds to foreign words, whether by accepting, translating, or rejecting them, can disclose information about underlying formal tendencies and the psychological emotions of those who use them.

Bloomfield (1933), in his book *influential Language*, compared a person's early learning of speech forms from others in the family with the later addition of speech forms from dialects and languages with which the individual and group came into contact in "Cultural Borrowing." Children "acquire" rather than "borrow." He also mentioned that the degree of control of the other language has an impact on borrowing for adults (Handrianto et al., 2021). People who are fluent in another language can freely use objects from that language. People who read foreign firms rather than acquiring them in conversation, on the other hand, understand foreign orthography in domestic meanings.

Graddol (2004) argues that the growth of English and other major languages outside their natural regions has destroyed the assumption that "one nation, one language" is the norm. This argument emphasizes the impact of foreign influences on language change. Most individuals will speak more than one language under the future world order, and they will transition between languages for ordinary tasks—foreign components in a language cause language changes. The adoption of foreign components in the language is primarily a social process that reflects social circumstances (Handrianto & Rahman, 2020).

Danaci (2005) states that when people learn a new or foreign language, they inadvertently impose lower-level sound patterns and grammar. On the other hand, people generally borrow terms from the language they learn and incorporate them into their current vocabulary. This linguistic shift has always been present, but it is gradually becoming apparent to the general population.

The extent of the foreign impact may be gauged by the number of terms borrowed. Before the end of the Old English period, around 450 Latin terms appeared in English works due to England's Christianization. This figure excludes derivatives and self-names, which are common among biblical names. However, around a hundred of them have solely learned or kept so many foreign characters that they have scarcely termed English vocabulary, according to Baugh et al. (1993) in their book "A History of the English Language" chapter's foreign influences on old English.

The degree to which the words it carries are absorbed is the actual test of foreign influence (Rahman et al. 2022). This is a matter of survival; it is also a matter of how thoroughly the words are digested until they are indistinguishable from the original word stock, allowing them to enter compounds and be transformed into other components of speech just like the original words. We may be sure that the Latin noun *planta* has been assimilated when it enters English as a plant noun and is subsequently transformed into a verb by adding the infinitive -ian (*plantian*) and other inflectional features.

To conclude the researchers' remarks above, it may be argued that foreign influence on language change is virtually entirely due to language borrowing. Language responds to foreign words in three ways: acceptance, translation, or rejection (Siang, Dahlan & Umar, 2020; Sicam

et al., 2021). When a language shift happens, most people speak many languages in the future global order. Foreign influences often test changes in the original language in a community, and therefore the importance of preserving the original language needs to be consistent.

Language Borrowing

It is appropriate to define what borrowed words mean when borrowing words. The Longman Language Dictionary defines loanwords as words or phrases taken from one language and used in another. Hudson (1994: 18) says that borrowed word is a general and traditional word used to describe the adoption into a language of a linguistic feature previously used in another. Haugen (1950: 210) states that borrowing adopts a linguistic expression from one language into another language when no term exists for the new object and concept.

Grosjean (1982) uses the term 'language borrowing' to refer to terms that have moved from one language to another and have been used by even one language, and he differentiates them from instances where bilinguals borrow items spontaneously and adapt their morphology, which he calls 'talk loans.' It is clear from the above statement that borrowed or borrowed words are not words that formally exist in one language and are not newly created, and loan words are new words adopted from other languages through various factors such as politics and close cultural contacts.

Concerning borrowing, some of the main reasons for borrowing English words are as follows (Sadtono, 2004): (1) The pressure of modernization and globalization; (2) English is more prosperous than Indonesian in vocabulary, ideas, concepts, and words for tangible things; (3) Advance in science and technology producing new things, is communicated using English; (4) Impatient with translation; (5) Some English words are non-existent in the Indonesian lexicon, and sometimes the idea itself is non-existent; (6) Some English words may become more popular than existing Indonesian equivalents; (7) English loan words are easier to remember when Indonesianized, particularly for those who know English; (8) The application of the principle of the economy ('economization'); (9) It is human nature; we need change and variety; (10) On the tip of the tongue; and (11) Show-off.

Language Shift

According to Maya Ravindranath (2009), Language shift is a process where the community of speakers of one language replaces one language with another or "shifts" to another language. Factors that cause language shift are generally considered social, and therefore, language shifts most of the time-shifting towards the language of the more dominant group, and the result can be the extinction of the regional language or mother tongue.

Language shift is often encountered in countries with various communities in it. The use of native languages in these countries causes immigrants from outside to be required to blend in with their surroundings and change the language they use to local everyday languages for social, economic, and other purposes. Abtahian et al. (2016) argue that language shifts are broader and more quantitative for two main reasons: (1) because large speaker populations do not protect against language shifts, in several studies, it was found that all language communities studied experienced a decrease in the number of speakers in real-time and (2) because a significant language, with a diverse population of speakers, offers us the opportunity to quantitatively examine the social factors contributing to the shift with our understanding of the process itself.

Language shift does not happen overnight, and it is a gradual process in which a speech community gives up its language for one reason or another and adopts a new one (Fasold, 1984; Siang, Sukardjo, Salenussa, Sudrajat & Khasanah, 2020). The starting point of language shift is bilingualism—often accompanied by diglossia—as a stage on the way to monolingualism in a new language (Romaine, 1994). The general understanding of language shift reveals that the

cause of some language-speaking communities is threatened with extinction because speakers choose to leave one language for another to achieve personal gain. Grenoble and Whaley (1998) state that a given language may be considered "no longer" beneficial" and is said to have "decreased efficacy" in society. Minority people move to other languages used by the majority in society, and the main reason is that these people are influenced by the dominant language in a particular city by the foreign community, which causes language shift to occur.

This causes a language shift related to language changes caused by foreign influences because minority communities will be influenced to change the use of their language and the scope of the community who has a language that is different from their mother tongue (Herwanis et al., 2021; Sarte et al., 2021). Language shift is always a shift towards language from the domain of the strong group, and domain groups have no incentive to adopt minority languages. Domain language is associated with status, prestige, and social success. According to Fasold (1984: 213-214), language, shift, and maintenance result from a language selection process over a very long period. Language shift indicates the existence of a language entirely abandoned by the community of speakers. This means that when a language shift occurs, members of a language community collectively prefer to use the new language rather than the old language that is commonly used.

CONCLUSION

The spread of many language varieties worldwide is known as a language change. Language change occurs due to interaction with other people who speak other languages. Language contact demonstrates the interaction between languages that may be created purposefully or inadvertently by various factors such as social, technical, cultural, political, and foreign influences. The foreign influence factor demolishes society's belief that a country must have more than one language, and they will eventually speak more than one language, depending on their requirements. The amount of foreign influence on language change in a society is measured by borrowing a language. Language borrowing is a term used in a society when terms from different places are employed. Language borrowing is not creating new words but rather adopting terms from other languages. The term "language change" refers to a shift in a community's primary language that drives them to abandon or alter it (mother tongue). Because the prevalent language influences individuals in the primary community, minority persons migrate to other languages spoken by the majority of society. As a result, foreign influences play an essential part in influencing language change in a community or region; language change demonstrates that a group is not simply tied to one language; this allows a country to have several languages. Finally, because foreign influences generate linguistic changes, around 85 per cent of them are caused by language borrowing. This foreign influence factor that influences language change appears due to public acceptance of the new language.

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