Code Switching (CS)

ESE MOMENTO WHEN
YOU START
PENSAR EN DOS
IDIOMAS
AT THE SAME
TIEMPO
Momentos de Code Switching

SPECIAL CONFERENCE ONLY PRESENTATION
What is Code?

“Any kind of system that two or more people employ for communication” (Wardhaugh, 2006 as cited in Younas et. al., 2014).

- Morse Code
- Math
- Music
- Traffic Signs & Signals
- Computer Programming (e.g. Python, Java, C++)
- Written, Spoken, & Signed Language (e.g. ASL)
- Affect & Non-Verbal Gestures
Code Switching in All We Say & Do

Linguistic Code Switching

Cultural Code Switching

Switching between Formal & Informal Communication

People learn when to CS via experience in the different codes ➔ Intuitive Switching
What is Code Switching?

Formal and Informal Communication CS:
- English formal greeting “good morning” vs casual “what’s up”
- Talking to your boss vs. your BFF
- Spanish use of formal “usted” vs. informal “tu”

Cross-Cultural Code Switching: norms, practices, & manners of a culture (e.g. handshaking vs. bowing – fork vs. chopsticks) (Molinsky, 2007).

When in Rome, act like the Romans (St. Ambrose)
What is Code Switching?

- **Linguistic Code Switching (CS):** using two or more languages to communicate while retaining the syntax (sentence structure) and grammar (i.e., conjugation and word usage) of each language.

Example:

- I sent out a birthday RSVP email to all my friends.

**Other Types of Code Switches:**

- $2 + y = 5$
- Passwords with various character/code types: upper & lower case letter, number, symbol
Types of Linguistic Code Switching

- **Intra Sentential**: inside the same sentence
  - She went to the tienda.

- **Intre Sentential**: different sentences
  - Voy a comprar papitas. It costs 99 cents.

When do we Code Switch?

- Conversational context/pragmatics guide CS (Wei, 2003)
What is Code Mixing?

- It is another term linguistic researchers use to refer to Code Switching.

- They are often used interchangeably by linguists.
Spanglish/Espanglés is a mixing of the English & Spanish language in a way that violates the syntax & grammar of either or both languages.
What is Spanglish? ¿Que es Espanglés?

- Use of Non-Words, Hybrid Words, & Slangs/Vernaculars
  - “Roofo”
  - “Linkear”
  - “Lonche”
  - “Conflei”
  - “Biles”
  - “El Paree”
What is Spanglish? ¿Que es Espanglés?

- **Adjective & Noun Reversals** (Barrett, 2006)
  - Correct **English**: A new car (adjective ➔ noun)
  - Correct **Spanish**: Un carro nuevo (noun ➔ adjective)
  - Spanglish that violates both rules: *A car nuevo*

- **Incorrect Suffix Usage** (Barrett, 2006)
  - Eat-*iendo*
  - Boil-*ando*
What is Spanglish? ¿Que es Espanglés?

Anglo Slang – Mock Spanish (Barrett, 2006)
- Addition of Spanish suffix “o” to nouns
  - The bathroom-\textit{o}
  - The chair-\textit{o}
- Addition of Spanish definite article “el” or “la”
  - \textit{El} bathroom
  - \textit{La} school
What is Spanglish? ¿Que es Esanglés?

- **Use of False Cognates** (Montelongo, Hernandez, Herter, & Cuello, 2011)

- **Cognate:** are words that have the same origin (e.g. Latin) so they look and sound similar across languages

- True Cognate: Curious = Curioso *(Latin: Curiosus)*

- False Cognate: To hang out ≠ Janguiar

- False Cognate: To park ≠ Parquear

- Some Love it and Embrace it **Fully**
- Some Code Switch between situations only (e.g. code switch with friends/family, but not in professional role).
- Some believe in **Pure** use of languages (e.g. all English or all Spanish, but NO mixing).
- Some associate code switching with degree of acculturation & English/Spanish language fluency.
  - code switching = ↓ English & Spanish fluency
- Some believe it influences other’s perception of their intelligence.
  - code switching = ↓ Intelligence
What Does the Research Say about CS?

- Code-switching is common in multilingual contexts and can be used effectively to enhance communication (Singo, 2014).

- Effective communication in healthcare provision is crucial (Singo, 2014)
  - To establish a caring relationship & build trust
  - To gather clinical information
  - To make accurate diagnoses
  - To counsel appropriately
  - To give therapeutic instructions
    - (e.g. parent coaching – Shinn, 2015)
Ribot & Hoff (2014) conducted a study of 115, 2 ½-year-old Spanish-English bilingual children in the U.S.

Children were more likely to code-switch in response to Spanish than English.

Children’s **Expressive** vocabulary scores were higher in English than in Spanish.

English and Spanish **Receptive** language scores were not different.

CS reflects expressive language dominance.

Receptive skills ➔ understand both languages

Expressive skills ➔ answer best in one language over another.
According to Singo (2014):

- From a sociolinguistic perspective, all code-switching is good and promotes linguistic enrichment and communication effectiveness between speakers.

- Research on CS demonstrates that it is an effective communicative resource in the classroom, in Sunday school, in church, on Facebook and in everyday conversation (Chitiga, 1994; 1996; Sun –Yung, 2010; Chen, 2013; Waifong, 2011; Viriri & Viriri, 2013).
Linguistic Code Switching in PCIT

SPECIAL CONFERENCE ONLY PRESENTATION
One example of code switching between levels of coaching based on language dominance

Level 1: Lead
- Use child’s dominant language for line feeding
- Use caregiver’s dominant language for directions

Level 2: Follow
- Use caregiver’s dominant language to label parent behaviors
- Use child’s dominant language to label child behaviors

Level 3: Explain
- Use parent’s dominant language to explain, interpret, & educate on behavioral & developmental concepts
Deciding.. to Switch or Not to Switch?

Keep your eyes on the prize: PCIT = *Parent Coaching for Relationship Enhancement and Behavioral Compliance!!*

Ask yourself:
- What are the caregiver’s views on CS & Spanglish/Espanglés?
- Does CS promote coaching flow?
  - Can you code switch effectively?
  - Can the parent follow & lead using code switches?
  - Does the child understand & respond to code switches?
- Does CS help enhance the relationship?
- Does CS facilitate improved behavioral compliance?
Basic Approaches for Using CS & Spanglish

- Use your “Linguistic Manners”
- Assess family’s views/attitude toward code alternation
- Listen & watch for CS in parent-child communication
- Mirror the family (e.g. speak as they speak)

When in Doubt:
- Ask the caregiver before you code switch, use Spanglish or Espanglés
- Ask if you can CS to “tutear” / informal Spanish verb conjugation
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  - Conference Presentations

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  - Training en Español & Co-Chair of Spanish Coalition

- Spanish PCIT Therapists Across CA & USA
  - Code Switching Smoothly! Keep at it!
GRACIAS POR YOUR ATTENTION Y INTERÉS IN THIS PRESENTACIÓN! (LP)


