# THE PHENOMENON OF LANGUAGE INTERLACING AND ATTITUDES OF LANGUAGE SELECTION OF THE YOUNG IN VIETNAM

Nguyen Hoang Ha<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Thai Nguyen University of Technology, Vietnam.

# **ABSTRACT**

Nowadays, in the process of international integration, the use of language by young people in the communication process and language selection attitude is a very complicated issue. This paper focuses on clarifying the language characteristics of young people from the perspective of communication and language selection attitudes of young people.

**Keyword:** Vietnamese, Language, Attitude, Communication.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

In all aspects, language plays a very important role in the development of a country. Even sometimes language is the decisive factor that ensures the stability and progress of a country by acting as an agent of communication, national unification, law, state management, politics and so on.

Youth are objects associated with the appearance, freshness, vitality, spirit, etc., which are characteristics of a young person. According to the United Nations, they are people between the ages of 15 and 24 who are the backbone of a nation in the future.

# 2. RESEARCH METHODS

#### 2.1 Data collection

From 1986 up to now, when the market economy opened up along with the trend of globalization, English has increasingly penetrated into the linguistic life of Vietnamese people as an international language. In the last years of the twentieth century, cultural contact and interference, the phenomenon of interlacing English units in the communication process became more common. The concept of interlacing is used to generalize the behavior of young people using English words in communication, including borrowing, code mixing and transcoding.

- *Transcoding*: Applying the theory of Myers-Scotton's Matrix Language Frame, in languages of youth, Vietnamese is considered a matrix language, while English units are interleaved as embedded languages. The phenomenon of transcoding occurs among young people who are multilingual, able to convert from Vietnamese code to English code while ensuring the integrity and standards of both languages. Transcoding is very rare, mainly taking place at the level of sentences in the conversation.

Ví dụ 1: Du đã book vé máy bay đi Phú Quốc chưa vậy?

Ví du 2: Cho tôi hai sandwich nhé!

- Code mixing: is a feature of the phenomenon of inserting English into Vietnamese communication among young people.

Ví dụ 1: Sắp đến ngày *Back-Friday* nhiều cửa hàng thời trang chạy chương trình *sale-off* cuối năm để tăng nhu cầu mua sắm.

Ví dụ 2: A: Hey, girl (hây, gơn), dạo này rảnh không?

- B: Cũng busy (bi di), làm gì?
- A: Đi tập gym (gym) với tớ đi, em tớ bảo có anh đẹp trai, manly (men lì) lại body (bo đì)
- B: Con crazy (crazy) này, mày tập hay tán giai?
- A: Đi đi, đừng để tao *alone*, *please* (a lôn, p lít)
- B: Thôi nhé, tao lại sợ anh ý fall in love (phô in lớp) tao chết

Or in a series of lines in everyday communication like:

- 1. Mày *check in* điểm du lịch này chưa?
- 2. Thời đại này dịch vụ ship hàng tân nơi phát triển
- 3. Tó vừa đăng status đấy, nhớ like và comment nhé. (...)

The English units are only mixed as meaningful units, the syntactic morphology is not guaranteed, Vietnamese plays the main code role, the English words interspersed are only auxiliary codes, mixed into the main code. Young readers are considered to be multilingual (completely or partially) English. Therefore, the reception of code mixing is considered to be insignificant hindrance.

- *Borrowing*: If transcoding, coding, and lexical borrowing are imagined as a continuous line in Fasol's view, borrowing is the end of this process. An English mixing code used repeatedly in the main code, making people feel familiar and forget the origin of the mixing code, is considered a borrowing word. English borrowed words in Vietnamese on the basis of comparison with the Vietnamese Dictionary (Hoang Phe 2020), some English words have borrowing status such as:

# 2.2 Data analysis

The purpose of using interstitial language of young people is:

- Expressing the identity of the youth group, in order to establish a youth communication community with the following characteristics: trendy, sensitive; humor, wit, intelligence; the need for creativity and strangeness of words.
- Speak less, avoid delicate issues
- Emphasize
- For no purpose

As such, language interjection is used as a clear communication strategy, with the primary purpose of expressing a humorous, witty identity. The scope of communication is also established as within the group. The proportion of people who use youth language unintentionally, just as a habit, also reflects the widespread popularity of youth language which has an influence on young people's habits of language choice.

The general attitude towards the language chosen by young people is neutral, even understandable and close. The community accepts the youth language as a normal variant in modern Vietnamese. In particular, the closer the forms are to the standard (infinitive English), the more positive they are evaluated. This attitude is explained by the current social, cultural, educational and Vietnamese context.

#### 3. CONCLUSIONS

- The phenomenon of language interlacing that are used a lot, in a wide range, with a high frequency in communication and through the media creates a close and understandable attitude towards the community. Young people use this type of variation with personal subjectivity, associated with each person's own point of view. Communities tend to accept more phenomena that are close to standard (infinitive English) and have a negative attitude towards phenomena of standard deviation (sound simulating English).
- The phenomenon of interlacing English words is increasingly revealing its great permeation and influence, both online and in social life and infiltrating the everyday language of young people, attracted the attention of many linguists, and at the same time created debates around the issues of communicative language. Some supporting views state that this linguistic phenomenon can represent the life and thinking state of young people, its appearance has the meaning of creating a new period in language function.

### 4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This work is supported by Thai Nguyen University of Technology, Vietnam

# 5. REFERENCES

[1]. Hoàng Phê (chủ biên) (2020), Từ điển tiếng Việt, nhà xuất bản Hồng Đức (Vietnamese).

- [2]. John Lyons (2006), Ngữ nghĩa học dẫn luận (Nguyễn Văn Hiệp dịch), nhà xuất bản Giáo dục (Vietnamese).
- [3]. Nguyễn Văn Khang (2014), Ngôn ngữ học xã hội, nhà xuất bản giáo dục (Vietnamese).
- [4]. Nguyễn Văn Khang (2013), Từ ngoại lai trong tiếng Việt, nhà xuất bản tổng hợp thành phố Hồ Chí Minh(Vietnamese).
- [5]. Trịnh Cẩm Lan (2014), Thái độ ngôn ngữ đối với những hiện tượng biến đổi trong tiếng Việt trên mạng Internet hiện nay, tạp chí Khoa học Đại học Quốc gia Hà Nội, tập 30, số 3 (Vietnamese).
- [6]. Lương Văn Hy (2000), Ngôn từ, giới và nhóm xã hội từ thực tiến tiếng Việt, Nhà xuất bản khoa học xã hội (Vietnamese).
- [7]. Nguyễn Thiện Giáp (2008), Giáo trình ngôn ngữ học, nhà xuất bản đại học Quốc gia Hà Nội (Vietnamese).
- [8]. Diệp Quang Ban (1999), tập 1, Ngữ pháp tiếng Việt, nhà xuất bản giáo dục (Vietnamese).
- [9]. Diệp Quang Ban (2000), tập 2, Ngữ pháp tiếng Việt, nhà xuất bản giáo dục (Vietnamese).

