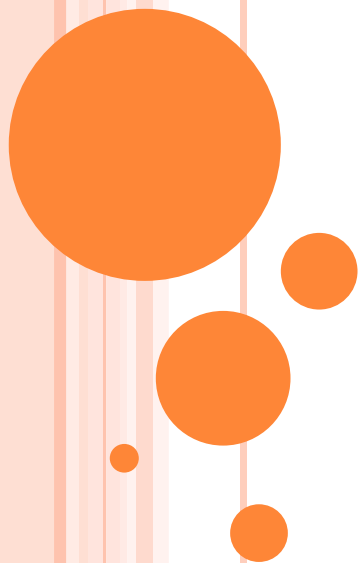


DIGLOSSIA



DIGLOSSIA AS DEFINED BY FERGUSON

- “Diglossia is a relatively stable situation in which, in addition to the primary dialects of the language (which may include a standard or regional standards), there is a divergent, highly codified (often grammatically more complex) superposed variety,...which is learned largely by formal education and is used for most written and formal spoken purposes but is not used by any sector of the community for ordinary conversation.”
Ferguson (1959, p.336)



DIGLOSSIA

- Diglossic situation exists in a society when it has two distinct codes/languages which show clear functional separation; that is, one is employed in one set of circumstances and the other is entirely different set.
- *“high” variety* = prestige language (public language) in a diglossic situation.
- *“low” variety* = non-prestige (“home language”) language in a diglossic context



HIGH VS. LOW LANGUAGE

High Language

Low Language

Public

Private

Prestige

Non-prestige

School, government

Home, playground

Literary tradition

Often unwritten

Signals high status

Signals intimacy



EXAMPLES OF DIGLOSSIA

Languages	High Varieties (H)	Low Varieties (L)
Arabic	Classical Arabic	Colloquial Varieties of Arabic
Swiss German	Standard German	Swiss German
Haitian	Standard French	Haitian Creole
Greek	Katharevousa	Dhimotiki

CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA

1. Function
2. Prestige
3. Literary heritage
4. Acquisition
5. Standardization
6. Stability
7. Lexicon



CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA

FUNCTION

- A key defining characteristic of diglossia is that two varieties are kept quite apart functionally. One is used in one set of circumstances and the other in an entirely different set. For example, 'H' varieties are used for sermons and formal lectures whereas 'L' varieties are used for the conversation with friends and family members.



CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA

FUNCTION

Functions of Language use	H	L
Sermon	X	
Instruction to servants		X
Speech in parliament	X	
University lecture	X	
Conversation with friends		X
Newspaper editorial	X	



CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA

PRESTIGE

- The 'H' variety is the prestige variety; the 'L' variety lacks prestige. In fact, there can be so little prestige attached to the 'L' variety people may even deny that they know it although they may be observed to use it far more frequently than the 'H' variety. It is also believed by these speakers that 'H' variety is more beautiful, logical and expressive than the 'L' variety



CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA LITERATURE

- In a diglossic community, considerable body of literature will be found to exist in 'H' variety and almost none in 'L' variety. Speakers will gain prestige from being able to allude to classic recourses whereas the folk literature associated with the 'L' variety will have none of the same prestige.



CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA ACQUISITION

- In a diglossic community, all children learn the 'L' variety at home. Some children may concurrently learn 'H' variety but many do not learn it at all. The 'H' variety is learnt in a formal setting like classroom.



CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA STANDARDIZATION

- 'H' variety enjoys the availability of grammars, dictionaries, standardized texts. On the other hand, 'L' variety usually has no comparable grammars, dictionaries and standardized texts.



CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA

STABILITY

- Diglossic situation in a community typically persists at least several centuries, and evidence in some cases seems to show that it can last well over a thousand years.



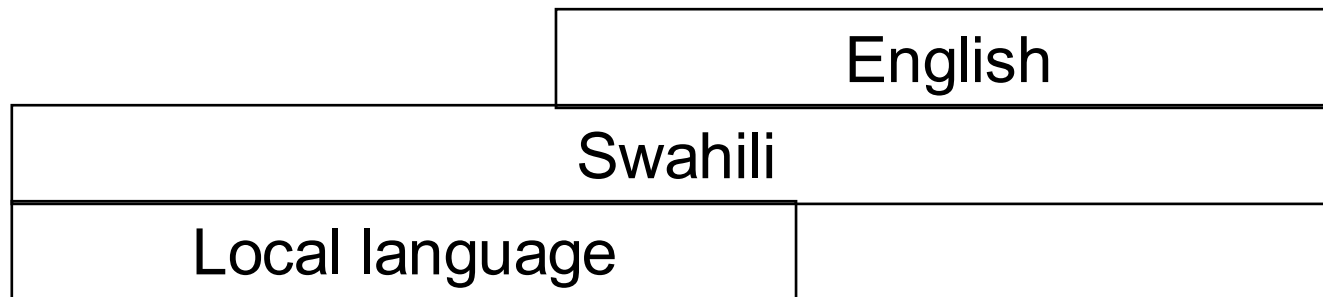
CHARACTERISTICS OF DIGLOSSIA LEXICON

- 'H' includes in its total lexicon technical terms and learned expressions which have no regular 'L' equivalents, since the subjects involved are rarely if ever discussed in pure 'L'. So, 'L' variety tends to borrow learned words from the 'H' variety.
- 'L' includes in its total lexicon popular expressions and the names of very homely objects or objects of very localized distribution which have no regular 'H' equivalents, since the subjects involved are rarely if ever discussed in pure 'H'.



OVERLAPPING DIGLOSSIA AND TRIGLOSSIA (MKIFILI, 1978)

- A research on the use of English, Swahili and local language.



POLIGLOSSIA (PLATT, 1977)

A Research in Malaysia

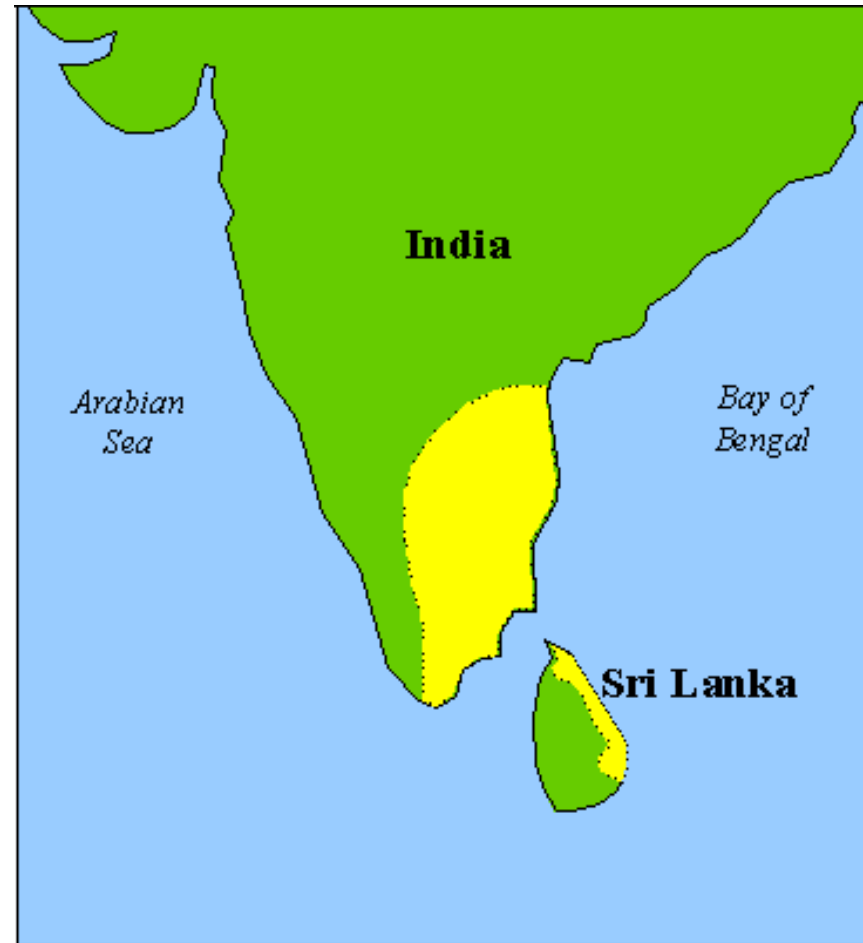
- Formal English
- Malay
- Mandarin
- Malay-English
- Other Chinese languages
- Colloquial Malay



TAMIL

- Spoken natively by 48 million people in India, plus a couple million others in Sri Lanka, US, Canada etc.

- Tamil is a Dravidian language



DIGLOSSIA IN TAMIL

- High variety is used in media, writing
- Low status variety used in everyday speech; also used for “high solidarity” situations such as political speeches



DIGLOSSIA WITH AND WITHOUT BILINGUALISM

- **Ferguson's** definition (1959): the side-by-side existence of historically & structurally related language varieties
- **Fishman's** reformulation (1967): a diglossic situation can occur anywhere where two language varieties (even unrelated ones) are used in functionally distinct ways

Fishman's reformulation		
	+ diglossia	- diglossia
+ bilingualism	Everyone in a community knows both H and L, which are functionally differentiated	An unstable, transitional situation in which everyone in a community knows both H and L, but are shifting to H
- bilingualism	Speakers of H rule over speakers of L	A completely egalitarian speech community, where there is no language variation

FISHMAN (1972)

		Diglossia	
		+	-
Bilingualism	+	+B +D	+B -D
	-	-B +D	-B -D

Examples:

+B +D : Paraguay (Spanish and Guarani)

+B - D : Belgium (German and French)

- B +D : Russian

- D - D : Hypothetical



RELATIONS BETWEEN BILINGUALISM AND DIGLOSSIA

- Bilingualism without diglossia: German-Eng bilingualism in Germany.
- Bilingualism with diglossia: Guarani-Spanish bilingualism in Paraguay
- Diglossia w.o Bilingualism: Classical and colloquial Arabic in Egypt
- Neither diglossia nor bilingualism: monolingual parts of the USA



THE EFFECT OF BILINGUALISM ON LANGUAGES' STRUCTURES

The effect of bilingualism on the languages structures' in a community is manifested in the form of the following processes:

- 1) Code switching
- 2) Code mixing
- 3) Borrowing



CODE SWITCHING

The process in which the bilingual speakers shift back and forth between one language or a dialect and another language or dialect within the same conversation. (Trudgill, 2003)

- Milroy and Muysken (1995), for example, define CS as “the alternative use by bilinguals of two or more languages in the same conversation” (p. 7). They use code-switching as a cover term under which different forms of bilingual behavior are subsumed.
- Myers-Scotton (1993b) also uses code-switching as a cover term and defines it as “alternations of linguistic *varieties within the same conversation*”



CODE SWITCHING AND CODE MIXING

- Others (Kachru, 1983; Singh, 1985; Sridhar & Sridhar, 1980), however, reserve the term code-switching for inter-sentential switches only, and instead prefer to use code-mixing for intra-sentential switches. The reason is that only code-mixing (i.e., intra-sentential CS) requires the integration of the rules of the two languages involved in the discourse.
- Muysken (2000) avoid using the term code-switching as a cover term because they believe that switching suggests alternation only, as in the case of switching between turns or utterances, but not necessarily insertion. Instead, they prefer to use code-mixing as a hyponym to cover both code-switching (intra-sentential only) and borrowing.



- Language change is a diachronic process, we cannot really determine at what point in time a particular lexical item gained the status of a loanword in the recipient language. Weinreich, Labov, and Herzog (1968) called this problem as *the transition problem*.
- There are two contradictory approaches as to whether and how to draw a line between code-switching and borrowing and how to distinguish between the two terms.
- Approach of Poplack and her associates
- Approach of Mayer-Sacotton and her associates



- Poplack has proposed morpho-syntactic and phonological integration of foreign words into the recipient language as criteria for establishing the status of such single words. She has proposed three types of criteria to determine the status of non-native material in bilingual utterances. These include whether or not single lexical items from a donor language in code-switched utterances were (1) phonologically, (2) morphologically, and (3) syntactically integrated into what she called *the base language*. She identified four possible combinations of integration as shown in Table



- There are two contradictory approaches as to
- whether and how to distinguish between the two terms.



CODESWITCHING

- The study of the alternate use of two or more languages in conversation has developed in two distinct but related directions: Structural and Sociolinguistic. The structural approach to CS is primarily concerned with its grammatical aspects. Its focus is to identify syntactic and morphosyntactic constraints on CS. The sociolinguistic approach, on the other hand, sees CS primarily as a discourse phenomenon focusing its attention on questions such as how social meaning is created in CS and what specific discourse functions it serves. It should be noted at the outset, however, that these approaches are not in contradiction, but complementary to each other.



DEFINITIONAL ISSUES

- issue of terminological confusion. Not all researchers use the same terms in the same way, nor do they agree on the territory covered by terms such as *code-switching*, *code-mixing*, *borrowing*, or *code-alternation*. In particular, at issue here is the *perceived distinction between* the terms code-switching and borrowing (Gysels, 1992; Myers-Scotton, 1992; Poplack, 1980, 1981) on the one hand, and code-switching and code-mixing (Kachru, 1978; 1983; Sridhar & Sridhar, 1980) on the other. Several criteria have been proposed to distinguish between these two pairs of concepts.



CODE MIXING

The process in which the speakers shift back and forth between two languages with such rapidity and density, even within the sentences and phrases that it is not possible to say at any time which language they are speaking.



BORROWING

The process by which bilingual/multilingual speakers introduce words from one language into another language, and these words eventually become accepted as an integral part of the second language.

e.g. 'restaurant' is a French word and now it has become an integral part of English language.



CODE SWITCHING AND BORROWING

- When bilingual speakers converse, they frequently integrate linguistic material from both of their languages within the same discourse segment. **Code-switching** involves speaking one language, then another, usually across sentences or clauses. **Intrasentential codeswitching** refers to changing languages in the middle of a sentence.
- **Borrowing** – borrowing involves adapting words to fit the language you are speaking, including sounds and grammar, making the borrowed word part of your language



Thank You !

