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978-0-521-47912-7 - One Speaker, Two Languages: Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives on Code-Switching

Edited by Lesley Milroy and Pieter Muysken

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Code-switching – the alternating use of several languages by bilingual speakers – does not usually indicate lack of competence on the part of the speaker in any of the languages concerned, but results from complex bilingual skills. The reasons why people switch their codes are as varied as the directions from which linguists approach this issue, and raise many sociological, psychological and grammatical questions. This volume of essays by leading scholars brings together the main strands of current research in four major areas: the policy implications of code-switching in specific institutional and community settings; the perspective of social theory on code-switching as a form of speech behaviour in particular social contexts; the grammatical analysis of code-switching, including the factors that constrain switching even within a sentence and the implications of code-switching in bilingual processing and development.

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Louise Dabène (University of Grenoble) and Danièle Moore (CREDIF, Saint Cloud) have been engaged in research on the bilingual behaviour of migrants in Europe for many years. Louise Dabène has published on Maghrebin migrants in France, showing how the actual language behaviour of migrants must be seen in the context of their often complex biographies and circumstances. Danièle Moore has carried out research amongst Panjabi/English bilingual speakers in Bradford, in the North of England, focussing particularly on communication patterns within the family.

Anna Giacalone Ramat (Facolta di Lettere, University of Pavia) was trained in general and historical linguistics and has carried out research in various areas, including the acquisition of Italian by migrant workers, with particular reference to temporality and modality, and Italian socio-dialectology. A focus in her work has been grammaticalisation phenomena in second language learning.

Penelope Gardner-Chloros (Birkbeck College, University of London) has carried out extensive research on French–Alsatian bilingualism in Strasbourg, developing an integrated perspective in which macro-social, psychological and pragmatic factors interact. More recently, she has carried out research in the Cypriot community in metropolitan London, developing a cross-generational perspective on the language use patterns of this bilingual group.

Marilyn Martin-Jones (University of Lancaster) worked for several years as a researcher on the Linguistic Minorities Project at the University of London. Those working on the project were the first to describe systematically the nature and extent of the linguistic diversity in England resulting from the labour migrations of the decades after the Second World War. In 1985, she co-authored with her colleagues a book entitled *The other languages of England*. Since then she has

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published extensively on community-based research on bilingualism and on educational issues related to bilingualism. She is also overall co-ordinator of two recent research projects on multilingualism, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council: the first one was based in primary schools in the north-west of England, and the second is an ethnographic project (1993–5) which is based in the Gujarati-speaking community in Lancaster.

Peter Auer (University of Hamburg) has published widely in the fields of dialectology, sociolinguistics and bilingualism, and phonology. He has published a number of volumes dealing with issues in these fields, and has also carried out an extensive study of the bilingual conversational behaviour of Italian/German speaking children of migrant origin in Konstanz, South Germany. More recently he has carried out research on bilingualism in Canada.

Lesley Milroy and Li Wei (University of Michigan and University of Newcastle upon Tyne) are engaged in a large project studying code choice and code-switching in the Tyneside Chinese community, across several generations.

Monica Heller (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), Toronto) was trained as a sociolinguist at Berkeley and has studied the relation between the political dimensions of bilingualism and code-switching in specific settings, in both the public and private sectors. She has carried out fieldwork in the French/English bilingual setting of a large brewery in Montreal, and more recently in bilingual classrooms in the Toronto metropolitan area. She has edited a well-known volume on code-switching (Mouton de Gruyter, 1988).

Pieter Muysken (University of Amsterdam) has worked in the Andes on Quechua and on Quechua–Spanish language contact, and with different creole languages of the Caribbean, including Papiamentu and Negerhollands.

Shana Poplack (University of Ottawa) has carried out extensive research on diverse bilingual communities, including the Puerto Rican community in New York, the French-speaking community in the Ottawa-Hull region and Finnish, Tamil and West African immigrants in Canada, as well as on Early African American English as reflected in the English Samaná, Nova Scotia and the Ex-Slave Recordings.

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Majory Meechan is in the doctoral programme in Linguistics at the University of Ottawa. Her dissertation focusses on phonological and syntactic variability in Canadian English. She has been working in the Ottawa project on Wolof and Fongbe.

Carol Myers-Scotton (University of South Carolina) is best known for her work on Swahili/English bilingualism in eastern Africa, which she has approached from a number of perspectives. A (socio-)linguist by training, Myers-Scotton has written on strategies of neutrality, and on code-switching as a marked/unmarked choice. She has recently completed two books: *Social motivations for codeswitching* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1993) and *Duelling languages: grammatical structure in codeswitching* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1993).

François Grosjean (University of Neuchâtel) was trained as a psychologist and has been working on the psycholinguistics of bilingual processing for a number of years. While much of his research has been done with French/English bilinguals, the wide scope of his knowledge is revealed in his *Life with two languages* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1982).

Regina Köppe and Jürgen Meisel (University of Hamburg) have been engaged in a large project on the simultaneous acquisition of French and German as first languages by bilingual children. Meisel has also collaborated in a study on the acquisition of German as a second language by Spanish and Italian migrant workers and a study of the bilingual acquisition of Basque and Spanish.

Kenneth Hyltenstam (University of Stockholm) has worked on several aspects of the psycholinguistics of bilingualism, on which he has edited a book jointly with Loraine Obler, *Bilingualism across the lifespan: aspects of acquisition, maturity, and loss* (Cambridge University Press, 1989). In earlier work he focussed on the adult second language acquisition of Swedish, and at present he is engaged in studying the effects of Alzheimer's dementia on the bilingual competence and on the code-switching behaviour of elderly Finnish/Swedish bilinguals.

Andrée Tabouret-Keller heads the LADISIS Laboratory, dedicated to the psychological study of language, at the Université Louis Pasteur in Strasbourg. She has first-hand experience with bilingual communities in a large number of countries, including Belize, and has acted as a consultant in a number of educational planning projects. She has published on a wide range of subjects in bilingualism,

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including language shift and code shifting in the Alsace, and is well known for the work carried out conjointly with R. B. Le Page, which culminated in *Acts of Identity* (Cambridge University Press, 1985).

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We also would like to acknowledge the crucial role of Georges Lüdi in chairing the Co-ordinating Committee of the Network. His part in piloting the original Network proposal through the European Science Foundation's decision-making bodies, his major contribution in helping to organise the Network meetings and in providing an overall balance to the perspectives adopted should not be underestimated.

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Finally we acknowledge the assistance of Lisa McEntee and Jette Bolle in helping to prepare the manuscript for publication and for assistance with the index.