

**People's Democratic Republic of Algeria**  
**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research**  
**University Abderrahmane Mira of Bejaia**



**Faculty of Art and Languages**  
**Department of English**

**Investigating the Use of Code Switching in Social Media**  
**Case Study: Students of Letters and Languages at Bejaia**  
**University: A Descriptive Study**

A Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for a Degree  
of Master of Art in Linguistics

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**Academic Year: 2021/2022**

# Table of Contents

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements

Dedication

Abstract

List of Graphs

## **General Introduction**

1-Research Background.....	1
2-Statement the Problem.....	1
3-Research Question.....	2
4-Research Aim.....	2
5-Research Methodology.....	2
6-Population and sample.....	3
7-Tool and Data Collection.....	3

## **Chapter One: A Brief Review of Code Switching**

1-Introduction.....	4
2-Definition of Key Concept.....	5
2-1-Sociolinguistics.....	5
2-2-Multilingualism.....	5

2-3-Bilingualism.....	5
2-4-Code Mixing.....	5
3-Definition of Code Switching.....	6
4-Functions of Code Switching .....	6
4-1-The Referential Function .....	6
4-2-Directive Function.....	7
4-3-Phatic Function .....	7
4-4-Metalinguistics Function .....	7
4-5-Poetic Function .....	7
4-6-Expressive Function .....	7
5-Types of Code Switching .....	7
5-1-Situational Code Switching.....	7
5-2-Metaphorical Code Switching.....	8
5-3-Conversationa Code Switching .....	8
5-3-1-Tag switching.....	8
5-3-2-Intersentential Code Switching .....	8
5-3-3-Intra Sentential Code Switching .....	8
6-Reasons of Code Switching .....	9
6-1-Lack of Facility .....	9

6-2-Lack of Register Competence .....	9
6-3-Mood of the Speaker.....	9
6-4-To Emphasize A Point.....	9
6-5-Habitual Expression.....	9
6-6-Semantic Significance .....	10
6-7-Show Identity with Group.....	10
6-8-TO Address Different Audience .....	10
6-9-Pragmatic Reasons .....	10
6-10-To Attract Attention .....	10
7-Code Switching and Code mixing.....	10
 <b>Chapter 2: A Brief Review of Social Media</b>	
1-Definition of Key Concept .....	11
1-1-Instagram .....	11
1-2-Facebook.....	11
1-3-Seech Community .....	11
1-4-Pragmatics.....	11
2-Social Media Definition.....	12
3- Kind Of Social Media .....	13
3-1-Facebook.....	13

3-2-Youtube.....	13
3-3-Whatsapp .....	13
3-4-Messenger .....	13
3-5-We Chat .....	13
3-6-Instagram .....	13
3-7-QQ .....	13
3-8-Tumbl.....	14
3-9- Ozone.....	14
3-10-Tik Tok .....	14
<b>4-Advantages of Social Media .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>5-Inconvenients of Social Media .....</b>	<b>15</b>
 <b>Chapter 3: Code Switching and Social Media</b>	
<b>1-Language Contact Phenomena .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>2-Social Virtual Communication .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>3-CS Relation to Language in Social Media .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>4-Code Switching in Twitter Platform.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>5-Code Switching in face book Platform.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>6-Reasons Why Code Switching is Positive .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>7-Conclusion .....</b>	<b>21</b>

## **Chapter 4: Methodological Design and Findings**

<b>1-Introduction</b> .....	<b>22</b>
<b>2-Research Methodology</b> .....	<b>22</b>
<b>ResearchProblem</b> .....	<b>23</b>
<b>2-2--Research Question</b> .....	<b>23</b>
<b>2-3-Research Goal</b> .....	<b>23</b>
<b>2-4-Research Population</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>2-5-Research Instrument</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>3-Presentation of the Results Students Questionnaire</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>3-1-Section 1: Personal Information</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>3-2-Section2: Code Switching in Social Media</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>3-3-Section3: Reasons of Code Switching in Social Media</b> .....	<b>30</b>

## **Chapter 5: Discussion and Analyses**

<b>1-Discussion</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>2-Discussion and Interpretation of Findings</b> .....	<b>33</b>
<b>Discussion of the First Section</b> .....	<b>33</b>
<b>Discussion of the Second Section</b> .....	<b>34</b>
<b>2-3-Discussion of The third Section</b> .....	<b>36</b>

## **CHAPTER 6: Implication, Limitation and suggestion**

1- Limitation .....	39
2-Implication .....	39
3-Recommandation.....	40
4-Conclusion .....	41
-General Conclusion .....	42
-Bibliography.....	44

**Appendix**

## **Acknowledgements**

*First of all, we would like to thank God the Almighty for giving us the inspiration and the aptitude to carry out this research work.*

*We express our deepest gratitude to **Mr. MEJKOUNE** who supervised and guided us; we thank him for all his advice, and his help to progress in our research thanks to his critical spirit and his support throughout the realization of this modest work. As we would like to thank the members of the jury for accepting to evaluate this work.*

*Our thanks go to those who have contributed directly or indirectly to the realization of this work. We would like also to thank all students who help us to collect the information.*



## DEDICATION

*I dedicate this work to my family, sources of our success.*

*To my father and my mother whose always love me and support me during my cursus.*

*To my brother and sisters, for his and her support and encouragement.*

*To my cousins for their precious help*

*Without forgetting my only best friends HAKIM and BILAL for their encouragements*

*I dedicate this work to all those who have Supported me near and far.*

## **Abstract**

These present researches investigate the use of code switching in social media among students of Letter and Languages at Bejaia University, including department of: English, Arabic, French and Tamazight. In this paper, we investigate and describe the factors and reasons that encourage students at Bejaia University (Faculty of Letters and Languages) to use code switching in their social media interactions. This paper also sets out to find out whether this code switching deliberate voluntary or systematic habit. In addition, it aims also to discover student's feelings, attitudes, and viewpoints towards the use of code switching in social media platforms such as: Face book, Instagram, Whatsapp. The questionnaires have been distributed to the LMD students in the Faculty of Arts and Languages at Bejaia University academic year2021/2022.The target population require a group of 40 among students from different departments including: Arabic, French, Tamazight, and English. The findings have proved that students use code switching in social media deliberately and voluntary as well as student's attitude towards this phenomenon is highly good and positive according to them.

**Keywords** Code switching, social media, interactions, students, positive, attitude.

## List of Abbreviations

CS: Code switching

CM: Code mixing

SM: social media

SVC: Social virtual communication

LMD: License, Master, Doctorat

L1: First Language

L2: Second Language

## List of Graphs

<b>Graph 1:</b> Gender of the Participants .....	<b>25</b>
<b>Graph 2:</b> Age of the Participants .....	<b>25</b>
<b>Graph 3:</b> Participants First Language .....	<b>26</b>
<b>Graph 4:</b> Participants Attitude towards the Use of CS in Social Media .....	<b>29</b>

## List of Tables

<b>Table 1:</b> Academic Level OF Participants.....	26
<b>Table 2:</b> Participants Use of Social Media .....	27
<b>Graph 3:</b> Participants Departments they Belong... ..	27
<b>Table 4:</b> Participants Social Media They Prefer Most .....	28
<b>Table 5:</b> Participants Language they use Most.....	28
<b>Table 6:</b> Participants Use of CS in Social Media.....	29
<b>Table 7:</b> Participants When Using CS They Use it .....	30
<b>Table 8:</b> Student Uses CS in SM because it Helps Them in Study.....	30
<b>Table 9:</b> Participants Use code Switching in social Media because it Helps Them in Learning Language .....	30
<b>Table 10:</b> Participants Feel Free to Express Their Idea in any Language They Know or Wish to Use .....	31
<b>Table11:</b> Participants Use CS in SM because they are not equally Competent in two Languages.....	31

## ***General Introduction***

## **1-Research Background**

Sociolinguistic deal with many topics including, multilingualism, borrowing, pragmatics, monolinguals, code mixing, code switching idiolect, dialect...But in our work we are going to concentrate mostly and exclusively on our interested branch of sociolinguistics which is known as “code switching”

Many linguists and scholars defined code switching in different way. Many of them define code switching as "the alternate use of two or more languages in the same discussion by bilinguals. In other hand, social media defined by researchers as: “feel *that social media refers to the actions, attitudes, and behaviors that individuals engage in when they assemble online to share information, knowledge, and ideas using conversational media*”

Today, with the great evolution of technology in the field of communication and particularly in social media platforms such as Face book Instagram, we see the widespread use of code switching by the students at Bejaia University in numerous articles publications, interaction and discussions. In this modest research we describe the causes that push student of Bejaia University to use code switching in social media platforms.

## **2- Statement the Problem**

The current research is part of the sociolinguistics area. We are interested in a topic that importance because it is topical issue, namely called “code switching in social media at Bejaia University Faculty of Letters and languages”. As we know that Faculty of Letters and Languages in Bejaia is multilingual in which several language coexists, the most generally spoken and studied of are Arabic, French, English and Tamazight. These also lead students of Bejaia to switch between these languages in their daily Language use and practice. From this we are asked how do phenomenon of code switching in social media in conversation among students of Letters and

Languages at Bejaia University, whether is a Deliberate/voluntary and conscious communication action or a spontaneous and Habit like Behavior among a sample of multilingual students who communicate in social media.

### **3-Research Questions**

Code switching as defined by many researchers as the use of two languages at the same conversation, this mixture between two languages can be voluntary or it can be systematic. So the research questions are:

- What are the reasons that encourage students of Letters and Languages at Bejaia university use code switching in social media?
- Whether students use code switching in social media voluntary or systematically?

### **4-Research Aim**

The purpose of this study is to investigate and describe the factors and reasons that encourage students at Bejaia University Faculty of Letters and Languages to use code switching in their social media interaction. Also it is important to discover Students felling and opinion toward the use of code switching in social media platforms.

### **5-Research methodology**

This research is based on quantitative information. A questionnaire distributed to the whole Faculty of Letters and Languages learners at Bejaia University, close ended question was opted in this questionnaire; this method was used to generate reliable information from the students. This method of questionnaire contain three sections: first section deals with personal information of learners, second section deals with sociolinguistics in social media as well as learners felling towards



the use of this sociolinguistics phenomenon, third section focus with reason of code switching in social media platforms.

## **6- The Target Population**

To collect data the questionnaire have been required for students LMD at the University Of Bejaia Faculty of Letter and Languages of the 2021/2022 academic year. We decided to work with this category of students because Faculty of Letters and Languages in Bejaia is multilingual in which several Languages coexists, in this faculty we find different languages are studied in: Arabic, French, English and Tamazight. The target population required a group of 40 among students from different departments. As result, a brief review questionnaire has been sent to total of students via their address email or through messenger.

## **7-Tools and data collection**

In order to collect authentic information, we opted for students a questionnaire, a questionnaire which compose of three section each section contains different question, first section deals with personal information, second section deals with sociolinguistics phenomenon known as code switching, third section deals with reason of code switching in social media platforms.

***Chapter One:***  
***A Brief Review of Code Switching***

## 1-Introduction

The first section of this chapter deals with a brief overview of code switching as sociolinguistics phenomenon. Since our research deals with code switching, it is very important to give a simple presentation of code switching. First, we are going to start this section with a brief definition related to the concept of code switching including: sociolinguistics, multilingualism, bilingualism and code mixing according to researcher's definition. Second, we are going to give a brief definition of code switching, as we all know many researchers, linguists and scholars defined code switching differently in different way, but the most of them defined it as the alternate use of two languages at the same conversation. Then, we are going to mention mainly the types of code switching, and it functions.

The second section of this chapter deal with a brief overview of social media or social networks. Our research deal with code switching in social media it is very important to mention the second variable of our research work by giving a simple presentation of social media. In this section, we are going to give a brief review of social media networks. First, we start with a brief definition and key concepts of social media. After that, we move to give a brief definition of social media by researchers' point of view. Then, we present kinds and types of social media platforms exist and the most generally use in today society. Finally, we present some advantages as well as some disadvantages and inconvenient of social media according to researchers.

A brief overview of code switching in social media was discussed throughout this chapter. This chapter concerned with theoretical background of our research paper. Furthermore, we have already discussed code switching in relation to language in social media platforms and the way in which social media it affects in language. Finally, we have presented the reasons why code switching is positive in social media for students according to the research that was conducted by other researchers.

## **2- Definition of Key Concepts**

**2-1--Sociolinguistics:** Many linguists as (Hudson, 1996) defined sociolinguistics as the scientific study of language in relation to the society. According to other researchers, it is also a branch of anthropological linguistics that focus in the relationship between language and culture, as well the way language is utilized in different social circumstances ( cited in Benzoukh, 2012).

**2-2-Multilingualism:**Person's or groups that has capacity to speak multiple languages is referred to as multilingualism or an individual who can speak much language is known as multilingual person; In other hand, monolinguals, the ability to use only one language. (Agti, 2021).

**2-3-Bilingualism:** Bilingualism is one of the most common social phenomenons in the society. It manifests itself in a person's capacity to master two languages with equal effectiveness at the same time through different aspect: language competency and the ability to communicate with others in very clear and intelligible way in terms of many aspect such as: pronunciation, grammar rules, phonology..... (Benaissa& Boudouh, 2020)

**2-4-Code mixing:** According to researchers the combination or mixing of several linguistic elements, within the same sentence and speech scenario, morphemes, words, phrases, and clauses from two different grammatical systems or sub-systems is known as code mixing. (Bendjilali, Benslimane, Salmi, Guessar, 2019)

### 3- Definition Of code Switching

Many linguists and scholars defined code switching differently in different way. Milroy and Muysken (1995) define code switching as "*the alternate use of two or more languages in the same discussion by bilinguals*". They use this concept to refer to any situation in which the language code changes during the same conversation. Code switching is also used as a cover name by Myers-Scotton, who defines it as "*variations of linguistic variety within the same discussion*". (Cited in, Metrouh, Mebtouche, 2020)

According to Seddiki (2015) Code-switching is a regular occurrence in multilingual cultures, where speakers employ their (L1) and second (L2) languages in distinct contexts. When bilinguals person modify a word or phrase from one language to another, this phenomena occurs.

Code switching is defined by researcher as "*the alternate usage of two or more codes within one conversational episode, in this example codes relate to different dialects or language variants*". Although code switching is a common linguistic result in settings of language contact, most bilingual communities hold it in low regard due to prevalent linguistic purity ideas. It is regarded as a disorderly practice, and other research linguists regard it as a sign of a lack of command of one or both languages. Other linguists defines code switching as "*a common term for alternative use of two or more languages, varieties of a language or even speech styles*" ( Mabule , 2015)

### 4-Functions of Code Switching

According to Nachoua(2018) linguists developed six primary roles of code switching based on Jacobson's and Holliday's concept of functional specialization:

**4-1-The Referential Function:** They claimed that code switching occurs due to a lack of understanding. As a result, bilingual speakers switch between languages when they don't have the

right term in one language or can't come up with a good concept to express a meaning because languages don't always have similar phrases.

**4-2-Directive function:** The goal of this respondent activity is to use or exclude certain from a discussion by addressing that person with a recognized a familiar or no natives' speakers.

**4-3-Phatic function:** Code switching is used to illustrate or accentuate a change in tone or to focus on essential components of a discussion, which is known as the metaphorical function.

**4-4-Metalinguistics function:** Meta linguistic function is defined as speakers making direct or indirect comments on another language in order to impress and draw the attention of other participants, as well as possessing linguistic abilities.

**4-5-Poetic function:** To entertain or please the audience, switched words, puns, and jokes are used. In this case, people employ code switching to quote other people or make jokes.

**4-6-Expressive function:** Speakers in this setting are more likely to use multiple languages in a conversation to demonstrate their mixed identity, as described by researchers. Code switching is done in this case for social reasons.

## **5-Type of Code Switching**

According to Adder and Bagui (2020) There are three sorts of CS, according to them Bloom and Gumperz classified CS into two categories. Situational CS is the first, while metaphorical CS is the second. Later, he created a new and invented a new type of code switching called as conversational code-switching.

**5-1-Situational code switching:** Refers to a transition that is made depending on the situation. When their interlocutors don't comprehend their linguistic variety, speakers switch in this

Form of CS. According to (Adder and Bagui, 2020) Bloom and Gompers claim that the “*theory of situational switching Presupposes a direct relationship between language and social context*” this indicates that depending on the place, social situation, and even the interviewer, an individual’s might switch from one language towards another.

**5-2-Metaphorical code switching:** It indicates that the person speaking switches from one script to another while conversing to create an effect, including a humor, or to underline a concept or something. (Adder & Bagui, 2020).

**5-3-Conversational code switching:** Conversational CS is the third type; it has an expressive goal and is used to paraphrase someone else's sentence for significance or to cite a reference using the writer's terminology. Furthermore, there are three different forms of CS: inter-sentential, intra-sentential, and tag switching or extra-sentential Code switching (Adder & Bagui, 2020)

**5-3-1-Tag switching:** This type refer to the insertion of a tag or ready- made (Adder & Bagui, 2020)

**5-3-2--Inter-sentential switching:** According to (Adder & Bagui, 2020) this type is “*the shift takes place within the sentence; a sentence is said in one language and another one in another language by the same speaker.*”

**5-3-3-Intra sentential switching:** In comparison to the other varieties, this type of switching necessitates a higher level of linguistic fluency, because switching occurs at the level of the same phrase or clause. (Adder & Bagui, 2020).

## 6-Reasons of Code Switching:

According to (Nachoua, 2018) When Malik investigated the issue of code switching among Indian speakers, he, like other academics such as Gompers and Karen Kow, came up with eleven causes. He gave the following reasons and explanations:

**6-1-lack of facility:** *“Speaker code switch when some concepts or appropriate expressions in one variety are not available in the other variety».* In other word when some concepts or relevant expressions in one variety are not present in the other, the speaker code switches.

**6-2-lack of registrar competence:** *Speaker code switch because they are not equally competent in the two languages”.* That is to say because they are not equally proficient in both languages, they swap speaker codes

**6-3-Mood of the speakers:** *When the speaker is not in a good state of mind for instance when they are tired, anxious, angry or nervous; code switching seems to take place even if the intended words are present in both languages.* In other word Even though the intended words are present in both languages, code switching appears to occur when the speaker is not in a pleasant and good mood.

**6-4-To emphasize a point:** Code switching is a technique for making statements more powerful.

**6-5-Habitual expressions:** *Code switching occurs mainly in fixed phrase like greeting, commands, requests, invitation, expressions of gratitude and discourse markers.* That is to say Greetings, directives, requests, invitations, expressions of thanks, and discourse markers are all examples of fixed phrase code switching.



**6-6- Semantic significance:** Code switching is a linguistic and cultural connection ability that helps to express meaningful content in a clear and concise manner.

**6-7-to show identity with group:** Code swapping is a way for members of the same community to articulate shared ideals and experiences.

**6-8-To address different audience:** In this case, when speakers address people with different linguistic origins, code switching happens

**6-9-Pragmatics reasons:** The use of code switching can emphasize different levels of speaker developments.

**6-10-To attract attention:** *Code switching is used to attract the attention of the audience through media and advertisements.* That is to say through media and advertisements; code switching is used to draw the audience's attention as well as their concentration in conversation.

## **7-Code Switching and Code Mixing**

Code-switching and code-mixing (CM) are two of the most important and very well speech processes in multilingual cultures. Both use the term "code", Furthermore, during a verbal contact, the term "switching" refers to the bilingual/alternation bidialectal's between diverse kinds. Code-mixing on the other hand, is *“the embedding of diverse linguistic components such as affixes (bound morphemes), words (unbound morphemes), phrases, and sentences that participants must reconcile what they hear with what they comprehend in order to infer what is intended”*. This two concepts code-switching and code-mixing were used frequently all across the literature. (Brezjanovic, 2011)

***Chapter Two:***  
***A Brief Overview of Social Media***

## 1-Definition of Key Concepts

**1-1-Instagram:** An image program that allows users to upload their images with the rest of the world. With a simple tap, you may add various picture effects to your photos and then share them with others. ((Yessika, Sutrisno, 2019).

**1-2-Facebook:** Face book is an online site where people can post opinions, share photos, spread information or other relevant web items, talks live, and watch short videos. (Yessika, Sutrisn, 2019).

**1-3-Speech community:** According (Agti, 2021), involve the fact that humans are able to make friends who are always dedicated to a particular [specific, special] group of people [population] known as a community. Bloomfield provides a straightforward definition [description] of the term "speaking community." According to him, a speech community is a collection of people who engage with one another.

**1-4-Pragmatics:** Pragmatics is a discipline of communication that explores how statements are understood in surroundings. It investigates how context influences interpretation and how context influences significance. Pragmatics is concerned with the use of language in social situations. In pragmatics, the utterance is associated with the physical and clear module of meaning that includes details via the use of words; the statement's discourse system has been established. Responsibility, control, and direction are all conveyed through gestures. The implications of starting in a certain situation. (// [Www.univ-bejaia.dz/](http://Www.univ-bejaia.dz/) fac-lettre et des langues.)

## 2-Social Media:

Social media is a term that defines a set of application and web technologies that allow people to interact online, share content, and create a unique community of contacts, colleagues, or organizations. Everyone utilizes their platform in their own way, and there are no hard and fast guidelines on what are 'right' for each website, the crucial term here, though, is social. Users go to social networking sites to stay up with the latest news, interact with peers, and discuss knowledge. Direct sales communications should be used carefully and with prudence, especially on career-oriented networks like LinkedIn, because they do not check in to their accounts expecting to buy something. (Institution of Engineering and technology, 2015).

Humans employ social media to create social networks or social interactions with individuals all over the globe who feel a sense of belonging, professions, or experiences. Another opinion according to many researchers is that People can use social media to engage, communicate, research, and participate with one another. The society nowadays is correlated with social media. Furthermore, others feel that social media refers to the actions, attitudes, and behaviors that individuals engage in when they assemble online to share information, knowledge, and ideas using conversational media; Internet programs that allow users to instantly create and distribute content in the form of words, photos, videos, and audios are known as conversational media. According to scholars, “*social media is defined as internet-based applications that carry consumer-generated content, which includes media impressions created by customers, typically informed by relevant experience, and archived or shared online for easy access by other impressionable customers*”. Social media is a highly easy and crucial network system for many individuals nowadays. It can be used to socialize and keep in touch with other ones who live in other parts of the world. (Yessika, Sutrisn, 2019).

### **3-Kinds of Social Media:**

According also to (Yessika, Sutrisn, 2019), the top ten most famous social networking platforms in 2019 are listed below:

**Facebook:** Face book is an online site where user can post message, upload image, discuss headlines or other pertinent web pages, chat live, and watch short videos. (Yessika, Sutrisn, 2019),

**YouTube:** YouTube is a video-sharing website that let users watch other people's videos, also allowing them to contribute their own (Yessika, Sutrisn, 2019).

**WhatsApp:** A global pass facebook messenger application that provides users to send and receive text, image, video, and audio conversations via phone, Blackberry, Android, Windows Phone, and Nokia Smartphone's.( Yessika, Sutrisn, 2019).

**3-4-Messenger:** Messenger is a cellular app that enables talk, voice, and video conversations by connecting the social media site's web-based messaging and cell phones (Yessika, Sutrisn, 2019).

**3-5-WeChat:** Ten cent's we chat is a cell phone sms and audio conferencing data provider that was first released in January 2011. Android, phone, BlackBerry, and Windows Phone are all supported by the app (Yessika, Sutrisn, 2019).

**3-6-Instagram:** An image program that allows users to upload their images with the rest of the world. With a simple tap, you may add various picture effects to your photos and then share them with others. (Yessika, Sutrisno, 2019).

**3-7-QQ:** QQ, like We Chat, offers a broad array of services, including entertainment, songs, movies, blogging, and chatroom. Allows user to send advertisements and links to their friends by using QQ. (Yessika, Sutrisno, 2019).

**3-8-Tumblr:** Is a blogging platform that lets creatively express them. Users can blog on a range of topics, making it more intelligent alternative to Facebook and other social networking services. (Yessika, Sutrisno, 2019).

**3-9-Qzone:** Ozone is a social media platform that companies use to create spontaneous and interesting conversations among their workforce (Yessika, Sutrisno, 2019).

**3-10-Tik Tok:** Tic Tok is an online communication app that allows people to make, share, and discover short music videos (Yessika, Sutrisno, 2019).

## **4-Advantages of Social Media**

Many key functions for network operators can be completed online utilizing social networking platforms, such as keeping in touch with friends and family, creating new acquaintances, sharing photographs, and exchanging ideas. Online communication could also provide youths with profound advantages which go beyond their understandings of them self, their populations, and the world in general: donating to charity and helping people for local activities such as ideological and charitable events are both positive methods to get involved in community. It promotes personal and collective innovation through creation and exchange of artistic and musical endeavors, as well as the development of ideas through the production of journals, podcasts, video and game websites. To put it another way, social media aids teenagers and youngsters in greater engagement and collaboration. Furthermore, Social media is also being used by students in middle and high school to cooperate on homework and research activities. For example, out beyond class, learners can use Face book and other social media sites to debate and exchange ideas about tasks. Several institutions have already had experience using websites as educational tool, which also reinforces communication, word reading, and thinking skills. (American academy of pediatrics, Clinical reports, 2011)

Youth now have more access to excellent health information on a variety of topics that are important to them, such as stress reduction and signs of sorrow. Teenagers with medical conditions can utilize a website to form supportive networks with others who are struggling from the same sickness respondents'. Daily use of mobile technology already has resulted in numerous improvements in their health insurance, including enhanced medication administration, disease recognition, and chronic lateness reduction. They will have more opportunity to learn about their health physical and mental illnesses and complications and talk with their doctors about them (American academy of pediatrics, Clinical reports, 2011).

## **5-Inconvenient of social media:**

Social media has such advantages but also has disadvantages we are going to mention some of them such as: Internet bullying and online harassment are both defined as the intentional use of electronic content to spread false, humiliating, or hostile information about another person. For all teenagers, this is the most common online risk. According to research, Online harassment is less common than outside harassment, and most teenagers are never at risk of being harassed online as a result of their participation in social networking sites. Cyber bullying, on the other hand, is common, can affect any adolescent offline, and has a variety of psychological repercussions, including unhappiness, less comfortable sadness, illness, worry, chronic isolation, and, unfortunately, suicide. (American academy of pediatrics, Clinical reports, 2011)

According to studies, when adolescents and youngsters spend too much time on social networking sites like Facebook and then demonstrate classic melancholy symptoms, a new phenomena known as face book sadness occurs. Adolescent life revolves around peer approval and engagement. The severity of the internet world is thought to be a contributing cause in some youngsters' unhappiness. Young adolescents and teenagers with Face book depression, like those with physical depression, are at danger of social isolation and, in some circumstances, mortality.

Besides, the major threats that social media users deal with today involve peer pressure, risks linked with incorrect technology use, a lack of privacy, sharing too much information, and posting misleading information about oneself or others. These activities put their privacy at threat. The electronic record and potential identity of young people and adolescents on social media sites is one of the major risks they face. (American academy of pediatrics, Clinical reports, 2011).



***Chapter Three:***  
***Code switching and Social Media***

## **1-Language Contact Phenomenon**

Researchers have conceptualized language interaction as any condition in which the coexistence of language acquisition has an effect on an adult's or a geographical community's communication behavior. It is a part of territories with dynamic boundaries, which alter according to movements, social and economic openings and closings, as well as political projects, and it is at the core of language change and variation, both in diachronic and synchronic analysis. From a synchronic or diachronic perspective, it's indeed likewise focused with the contact and interconnections between languages on the one hand, and between variants of the same dialect on the other. (Zitouni & said, 2019)

## **2-Virtual social and Social Media Platform as a Phenomenon**

Social virtual communication refers to any collective human communication and interaction through the internet (SVC). SVC is currently being utilized by academic and non-academic communities to promote communication, , invention, and integration, according to studies, a group of researchers looked into how to influence virtual communication in social and academic environments, suggesting that SVC is used to communicate, analyze material, make suggestions, seek intimate connections, and exchange all fresh knowledge.(Zitouni & said, 2019)

## **3-Code Switching Relation to Language in social media**

Code switching has been one of the most popular communication learning strategies; this means that code switching allows people to engage in the language of choice. Code switching is a method of learning a language that requires using two or more languages at the same time. It converts students into bilingual and multilingual communicators in an instant. Although code flipping isn't a communicative strategy, it can help a speaker retain and identify themselves in

language acquisition at the same time. As little more than a result, when comparing to periods when he didn't use any strategies, this technique has helped the students in understanding the language more easily than before. With this method, the authors attempt to deal with the code switching that happens in social media. Social media has grown into something that cannot be separated from human existence in today's world. Because it has become a necessity, it has become a way of life for most people. The link between social media and code switching is obvious when a social media user posts something like that in his post. Many people on social media use two or more languages to publish anything in their profiles. It indicates that the users are able to swap codes and are bilingual. Code switching on social media demonstrates that anyone may learn a foreign language on their own every day. Finally, if they rehearse code switching every day, it's the same as if they learn another language every day. As a result, they are successful in learning language through code switching. That would be to say, people will use social media to self-learn by adopting the code switching strategy, which is a common occurrence in today's world. People in social media used code switching unintentionally, leading in them being bilingual people. This method may be beneficial in the study of languages. (Cindy Kurnia, 2017)

#### **4-Code Switching In Twitter Platforms**

Code switching can also be witnessed in social media sites that engage in several languages. Indonesians have voluntarily implemented social media platforms such as Twitter to modify their vernacular. Within virtual forums, the term "social network" refers to communication methods or services that are used to preserve, gather, publish, exchange, or transfer data. People use digital and traditional media to get education, instruction, news, and other data. Twitter is a popular social media platform. At Twitter.com, you can sign up for a free social messaging site. Students, entertainers, writers, instructors, and even presidents are among the millions of Twitter users. Twitter was used

for a variety of purposes as a result of its mass popularity, including protests, political campaigns, educational purposes, and emergency communication. (Sihombing& Meisuri, n.d)

As For very many people, Twitter has evolved into a manner of living. People can learn about phenomena of bilingualism known as Code-switching, which is the study of code shifting in the social media platform. The subject of Twitter is a fascinating one to debate. Since Twitter users do not always utilize the same language, they regularly switch dialects in some tweets. They find it tough to express themselves. Code switching can be seen in both spoken and interpersonal text, and the motivations for shifting languages are similar to those for verbal interaction. (Sihombing& Meisuri, n.d)

Furthermore, the researcher is perplexed as to why twitter users alter their terminology when posting tweets. Applying linguists ten arguments methodology to code switching, researchers did study on code switching on networking websites, analyzing the phenomenon of language variation in status and messages published on the social networking site. (Sihombing, Meisuri, n.d)

## **5- Code Switching in Face book Platform**

Many educational researchers undertake research to discover the motives and goals that encourage teenage Algerians to use code switching in social media. The purpose of this study is to provide information on the beliefs and objectives that lead young Algerians to use code switching in social media. Code-switching on social networking sites, especially on Face book in Algeria, is not debated as a topic of interest among academics worldwide, the scientists used a survey poll to get a thorough picture of students' views regarding switching between Arabic, French, Berber, and English in Face book communication. Respondents have a very good view on the usage of code-switching in Face book, according to the data. The research also reveals that Face book networking is becoming more prominent, and it identifies it appeals among users. Furthermore, a large number of Algerian students are reported to be used by Face book users to improve their interaction, connectedness, and

sociability. It's also a type of communication and exchanging ideas efficiently. Students' Face book communication is utilized for educational as well as entertaining and connection objectives, such as debating project proposal research, trading homework and college courses, as well as files and lecture notes. However, the authors of the study findings show that using Face book to network will not increase academic performance. As Face book has swiftly grown into the most traditional types of communication over the Internet, terminology has been plunged headlong in terms of its use, usage, and practices. Code-switching (CS), a language phenomenon that has shown real infiltration, implication, and impact on language creation and interchange among Algerian Face book users, is one of them, use of more than one language in a conversation. According to many research that have made researchers and linguist students' sentiments toward the usage of code-switching in Face book communication are shown to be extremely favorable (Zitouni, & Saaid, 2019)

## **6-Reasons Why CS is Positive according to students:**

According to (Al-Qaysi & Al-Emran, 2017) in the educational context, social media plays a vital role; several studies have been carried out to assess the influence of these websites in the educational context.

Students claim that in most circumstances, code flipping is beneficial in online communication; it allows people to express themselves in any tongue they know or desire to study, whether Arabic, French, or English, and it makes them feel good and makes them feel secure when speaking. It encourages students to acquire new phrases and express new concepts in a fun way, which improves their interaction and phonological awareness. It also gives them a sense of self-assurance and did make feel really at ease when they conversing (Zitouni, & Saaid, 2019)

## 7-Conclusion

A brief overview of code switching in social media was discussed throughout this part, it was concerned also with theoretical background of our research paper. The main objective of the theoretical part is to understand better the phenomena of code switching in social media, and seek out the reason that encourage students to use this phenomena in social media platforms.

We can observe that people and students use code switching because they are not very and equally proficient in two languages. In other words, people use code switching mainly because they cannot really master and use or speak one language appropriately so this mainly push them to use code switching

We can deduce that social media is tool to communicate between each others, share information and exchanging point of view.

Finally, we can observe that social media platforms and Social media networks has such advantages but also has disadvantages for adolescent and youngsters.

***Chapter Four:  
Methodological Design and Findings***

## **1-Introduction**

This chapter main goal is to present methodology and design conducted during this present research work. This study aims at studying the use of code switching in social media among students of Art and Languages at Bejaia University.

This research is based on quantitative information, close ended question, we chose this method because this method it's very helpful for students to answer the questionnaire as well, this also help us to get reliable and logical information. It helps us to interpret the information gathered from students, in order to find solution to our research problem.

This section is about the findings of students questionnaire .This questionnaire is devoted to the students of faculty of Letters and Languages at Bejaia University, the number of students who participated in these questionnaire represents 40 students of the whole population. This chapter main objective is to find out the answer to our research problem, aim and objective to our research paper

## **2-Research Methodology**

This research is based on quantitative information. A questionnaire distributed to the whole faculty of Letter and Languages learners at Bejaia University from different departments. Close-ended question was opted in this questionnaire; this method was used to generate reliable information from the students. This method of questionnaire contain three sections: first section deals with personal information of learners, second section deals with sociolinguistics in social media as well as learners felling towards the use of this sociolinguistics phenomenon, third section focus with reason of code switching in social media platforms.



## **2-1- Research Problem**

The current research is part of the sociolinguistics area. We are interested in a topic that importance because it is topical issue, namely called “code switching in social media at Bejaia University Faculty of Letters and languages”. As we know that Faculty of Letters and languages in Bejaia is multilingual in which several language coexists, the most generally spoken and studied of are Arabic, French, English and Tamazight. These also lead students of Bejaia to switch between these languages in their daily Language use and practice. From this we are asked how whether phenomenon of code switching in social media in conversation among students of Letters and languages at Bejaia University, how whether is a Deliberate/voluntary and conscious communication action or a spontaneous and Habit like Behavior among a sample of multilingual students who communicate in social media.

## **2-2-Research Questions**

Code switching as defined by many researchers as the use of two languages at the same conversation, this mixture between two languages can be voluntary or it can be systematic. So the research question is:

- What are the reasons that encourage students of Letters and languages at Bejaia university use code switching: voluntary or systematically

## **2-3-Research Goal**

The purpose of this study is to investigate and describe the factors and reasons that encourage students at Bejaia University faculty of Letters and Languages to use code switching in their social media interaction. Also it is important to discover Students felling and opinion toward the use of code switching in social media platforms.

## **2-4-Research Population**

To collect data the questionnaire have been required for students LMD at the University Of Bejaia faculty of Letter and languages of the 2021/2022 academic year. The target population required a group of 40 among students from different departments. As result, a brief questionnaire has been sent to total of 40 students via their address email or through messenger. This questionnaire provided to investigate the factors that push those students to use code switching in social media and find out how whether this code switching deliberate voluntary or systematic habits.

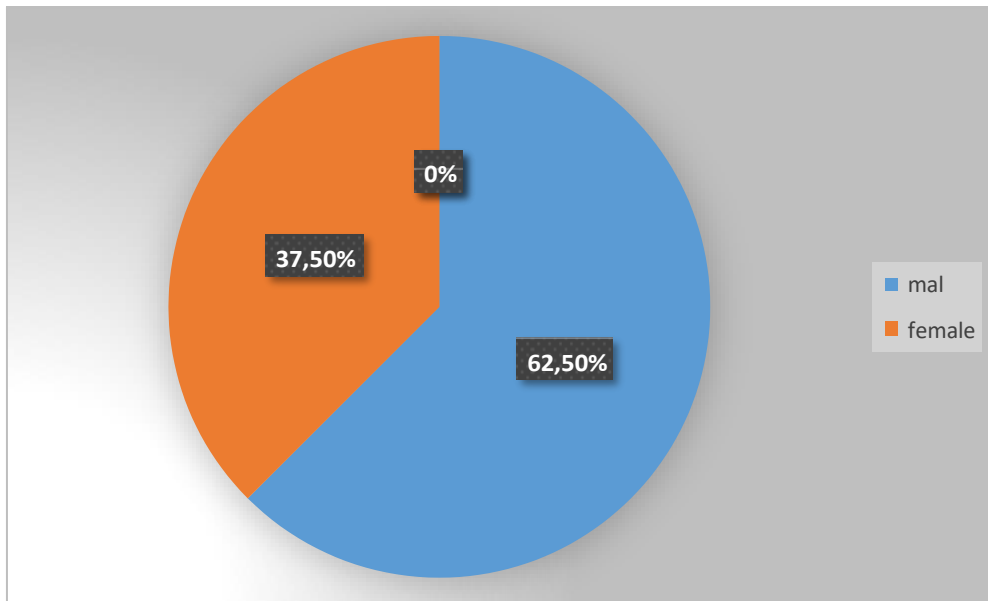
## **2-5-Research Instrument**

In order To collect authentic information, we opted for students a questionnaire, a questionnaire which compose of three section each section contains different question, first section deals with personal information, second section deals with sociolinguistics phenomenon known as code switching, third section deals with reason of code switching in social media platforms.

### 3-Prsentation of the Results of the Students' Questionnaire

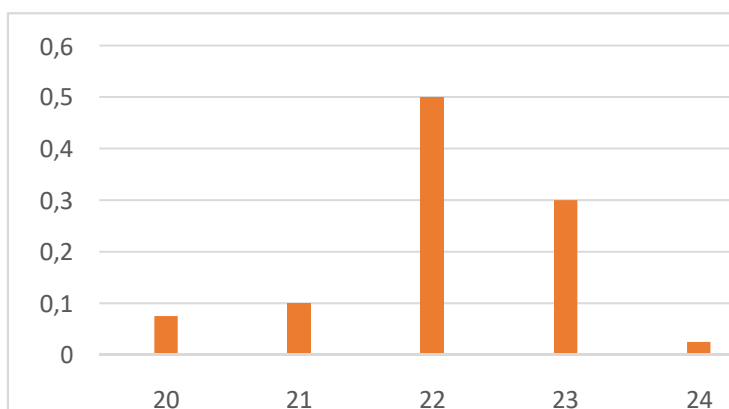
#### 3-1-Section 1: Personal Information

##### **Question 01:** Gender of the Participants



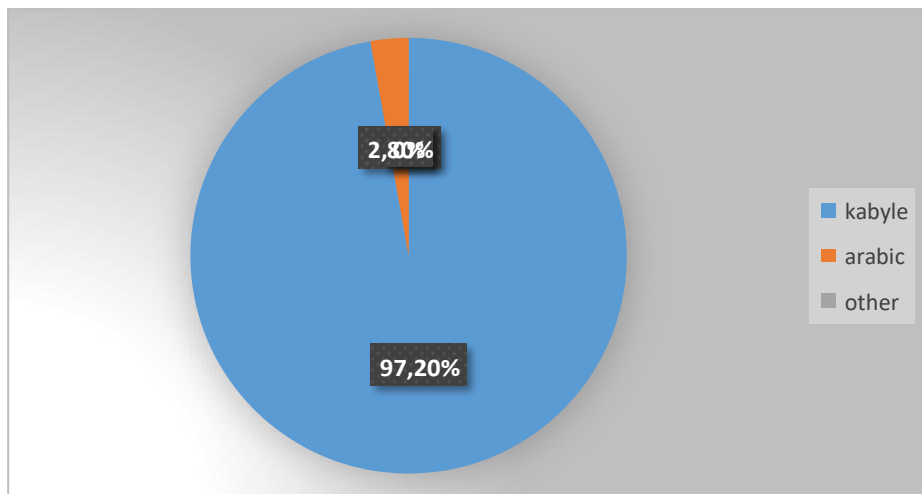
Among 40 participants who answered this questionnaire, 25 students are males and 15 other are females. According to the graph, males make up 62,5% of the overall students, while females make up 37,5% of them.

##### **Question02:** Age of the Participants



From the graph above, we notice that the students who responded to the questionnaire are from various ages. Ages range from 20 to 24 years old. A large number of them are 22 years old making up 50%, 30% of the student age are 23 years old, 10% of them are 21 years old, 7,5 % of them are 20 years old, then 2,5% of them are 24 years old.

**Question 03 : Participant First Language**



From the results, we notice that a large number of participant at Bejaia university their first language is Kabyle making up 97, 2% and the remaining of participant’s with 2, 8%, their first language is Arabic.

**Question 04: Academic Level of the Participant**

Academic Level	Licence	Master
Number	23	17
Percentage	57,5%	42,5%

According to the results, we observe that the participants from the licence level contain a high number of answers with 57,5% in comparison to master level with 42,5% of answers.

**Question 5:** Participants Departments they belong to

<b>Departments</b>	<b>French</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Tamazight</b>	<b>Arabic</b>
<b>Number</b>	12	10	10	8
<b>Percentage</b>	30%	25%	25%	20%

Since this research deals with students of whole faculty of letter and languages at Bejaia University, from the graph, we notice that French department contains a massive amount of participants making up 30% of the representing, while 25% of participants are from English departments, then 25% of participants are from Tamazight department. Finally we have 20% of participants from Arabic department

**3-2-Section two:** Social Media and Code Switching.

**Question6:** Participants use of social media

<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Number</b>	40	0
<b>Percentage</b>	100%	0%

From the graph, the study shows that all participants use social media networking, with 100% of participant's answers with yes, while 0% of answers say no.

**Question 07:** Participants Social Media platforms they prefer

Social platforms	Face book	Instagram	whatsapp	Twitter
Number	28	9	3	0
Percentage	70%	22,5%	7,5%	0%

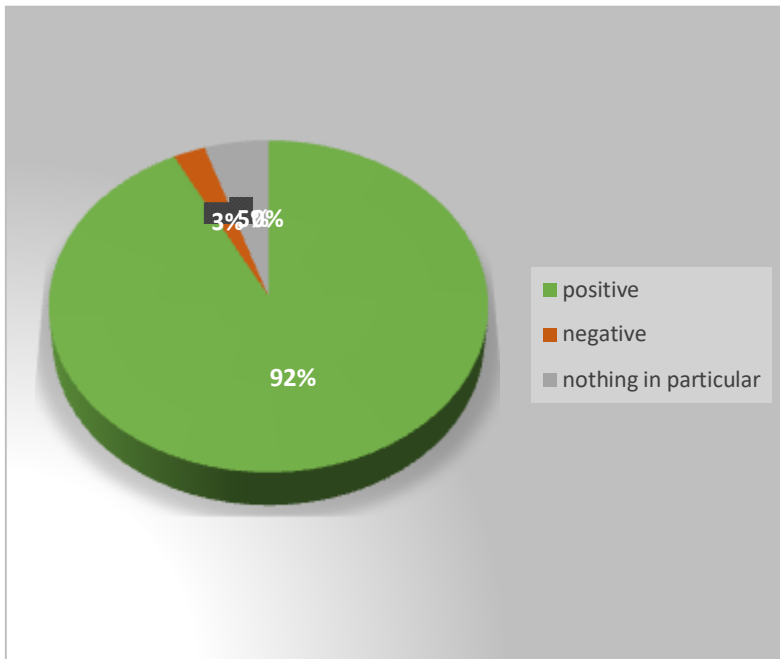
The result, shows that majority of students prefer face book platform as better social virtual communication network with 70% of answers, while 22,5% of participants prefer instagram platform , than other 7,5% of participants prefer using whatsapp platform, finally twiter platform making up 0%.

**Question 08:** Participants most used language in social media:

Language	French	Arabic	English	Kabyle
Number	0	1	0	39
Percentage	0%	2,5%	0%	97,5%

The graph below shows that the majority of participants prefer to use kabyle language in their communication in social media with 97,5% of the total students , while 2,5 % of them prefer to use Arabic language in their discussion, finally, We do not get answer from participants who prefer to use English and French with 0%.

**Question09:** Participants attitude towards the use of CS in social media:



The graph below, represent student attitude towards the use of code switching in social media, while a large a number of answers are positive with 92% of the overall population; and 3% of them found it as negative tool, finally,5% of them answers with nothing in particular.

**Question 10:** Participants use of CS in social media:

Yes/No	Yes	No
Number	39	1
Percentage	97,5%	2,5%

The result show that, participants use code switching when chatting in social media, among 97,5% of them answer with yes, and rest of population answers No with2,5 %.

**Question 11:** Participants when using code switching they use it:

Code switching Use	Deliberately	Systematically
Number	31	9
Percentage	77,5%	22,5%

The graph below, **77,5%** of students claimed that they use code switching in social media deliberately ,while 22,5% of other population use it systematically

**3-3-Section3:** Reasons of code switching in social Media

**Question 12:** Participants use CS in social media; it helps them in learning outcomes:

YES/no	YES	No
Number	33	5
Percentage	86,8%	13,2%

According to the result, students believe that they use code switching in social media mostly because it helps them in learning outcomes such as research project. Preparing exam in messenger group, 86, 8% of them replied with Yes; while rest of them 13, 2% answer with No

**Question 13:** Participants use CS in Social helps them to improve Linguistic competence

Yes/No	Yes	No
Number	34	6
Percentage	85%	15%

From the graph below and from participant’s answers, student use code switching in social because it helps them to develop their linguistics competence; with85% of sample answers with Yes and rest of sample answers with No making up 15%.



**Question 14:** Participants feel free to express their thought in any language they chose

Yes/NO	Yes	No
<b>Number</b>	34	5
<b>Percentage</b>	87,2%	12,8%

The research study shows that, students use code switching in social media because it allows them to feel free to express their thought in any language they chose, in other word, according to them using code switching in social media is learning language in itself, while 87, 2% of them answers with yes besides, 12,8 %of them answers with No

**Question 15:** Participants use CS in social Media because they are not active two languages:

Yes/ No	Yes	No
<b>Number</b>	26	14
<b>Percentage</b>	65%	35%

According to the data collected, 65% of students use code switching in social media because they claimed that they are not equally active and able in two languages, while 35% of sample answers with No according to them this phenomenon take place in their discussion systematically it is like habits for them

***Chapter Five:***  
***Discussion and Analyses***

## 1-Dscussion

This chapter aim is to deliver, discuss and analyze the data collected among students of Letter and Language at Bejaia University. In the previous chapter we gain knowledge and interpret the answer to our research aim; research problem and research question. This research paper, permitted us to discuss the data collected among students, and discovers the participant's attitude and felling towards the use of code switching in social media.

According to the participant answers for the questionnaire, the students of Letters and Languages at Bejaia University revealed that they use code switching in social media deliberately and voluntary because this method pushes them to develop their linguistic competence and using different language went to speak..Students use code switching in social media because they claimed that they are not equally active and capable in two languages, they employ code switching in social media since it allows them to express their thoughts in any language they know or chose or they want to use.

## **2-Discussion and Interpretations of Findings**

### **2-1- Discussion of the First Section**

#### **-Gender of the Participants**

The findings of the first section reveal that 62, 5% of the participants who answered this questionnaire are male, and only 37, 5% are females mainly because males are more interested in using social media platforms.

#### **-Age of the Participants**

From the data collected, we notice that student's who responded to the questionnaire are from various ages. Ages range from 20 to 24 years old. A large number of them are 22 years old making up 50%, 30% of the student age are 23 years old, and only 10% of them are 21 years old, 7, 5 % of them are 20 years old, then 2, 5% of them are 24 years old. From this we deduce that student from different ages responded to the questionnaire.

#### **-Participants' First Language**

From the information collected we notice that a huge percentage of participants at Bejaia University speak Kabyle as their first language with 97.2%, while the remaining participants speak Arabic with 2.8%. This is probably due to the fact that Kabyle is the most widely spoken variant in Bejaia. Also the majority of students are from Bejaia only few of them are foreigner and others are from different all around of Algeria. Being located in a Tamazight speaking region the University of Bejaia has specific sociolinguistics and cultural characteristics (Becktache, 2009)

#### **-Academic Level of the Participants**

Students level are from License and Master ,we received most answers from License maybe because the majority of students leave their studies from License, a small minority is interested in

continuing their studies and some are interested in studies abroad, and the others leave their studies from License to look for and concentrate on job.

### **- Which Department Participants they belong to?**

Since this study involves students from the entire faculty of Letters and Languages at Bejaia University, we can see from the data collected that the French department has a large number of participants, accounting for 30% of the total, while the English department has 25% of the total, and the Tamazight department has 25% of the total. 20% of the participants are from the Arabic departments. This is because students from French department are more interested in using code switching in social media platforms and probably they are the most affected of these sociolinguistics phenomena.

## **2-2- Discussion of the Second Section**

### **-Did Participants use Social Media?**

In the second section of the questionnaire, the participants were asked about using code switching in social media. From the data collected, we can observe that the majority of the students of Letters and Languages at Bejaia University use social media networks exclusively;

### **-Which Social Media Platform participants prefer most?**

Students prefer face book as a means of communication for the most of students. Probably Face book is the social media platform where they can share their ideas, information, photo and videos with their friends or their classmates. There are other who prefer to use instagram for better communication probably because it allows them to have a high quality of videos and photos in comparisons to others social virtual communication. There are also students who prefer to use only whats app just for communication between their friends or family members

### **- Which Language most used in Social Media for participants?**

We can observe also that student from the different departments at Bejaia university use codes switching in their discussions by using different languages, the dominant languages are: Kabyle and Arabic. Kabyle because these categories are from Bejaia or Tizi ouazou and Bouira as well. Arabic because there are students who come from different city of Algeria where their first language is Arabic. According to many researchers many Algerian Social Media users are said to utilize code switching as a method to improve their contact, accessibility, and socializing.

### **-Participants feelings towards the use of Code Switching in Social Media**

This research work also seeks to find out and explore students at Bejaia university attitudes and feeling towards the use of code switching in social media. From the gathered information, the participants feel that code switching has a beneficial and positive impact on their life, only a few students believe it has a negative one. Probably it helps them to feel pleasant in their interactions via social network and negative because it disturbs them when mixing between two languages.

Many researchers like (Al-Qaysi, Al-Emran, 2017) suggested that use of code switching is positive because it gives many of the students a sense of self-assurance and makes them feel secure when conversing and chatting via social media platforms.

### **-Did Participants use Code Switching in Social Media?**

From the student's answers they use code switching in social media deliberately and consciously because it is very helpful tool for better understanding the language when chatting and better understanding in communication. However; a research that was conducted by (Cindy Kurnia, 2017) who claimed that People in social media used code switching automatically, this is leading in them becoming bilingual or multilingual. According to him this method may be beneficial in the study of languages.

### **Did Participants use code switching in social deliberately or voluntary?**

According to the participant answers for the questionnaire, the students of Letters and Languages at Bejaia University revealed that they use code switching in social media deliberately and voluntary because this method push them to develop their linguistics competence and using different language went to use.

## **2-3-Discussion of the Third Section**

### **-Did Code Switching Help students in learning outcomes?**

In the third section of the questionnaire, the participants were asked about the reason of using code switching in social media, according to the result, students believe that they use code switching in social media because it helps them in learning outcomes. Such as: research examination and preparing for exam and test in social media platforms group. From students suggestions Social media sites are used for preparing activities such as group discussions between classmates by publishing exercise and activities and lessons, as well as sharing documents, files and lesson notes for those who were absent. However, a research that was conducted by (Zitouni, Saaïd, 2019) the results indicate that code switching is employed as a tactic to effectively communicate and negotiate meaning.

### **-Did Code switching helps students to improve their Linguistics competence?**

Furthermore, from the information collected and from participant's answers, they use code switching in social media because it helps them to improve and develop their linguistics competence by using different language they master. According to student answers they use code switching in social media; it helps students to learn new word from other languages or from various dialects. However, the research that was conducted by (Cindy Kurnia, 2017) the results show that code switching on social networks demonstrates that anyone may acquire language on their own every day. Finally, if they practice code switching every day, it's the same as if they learn a new language.

**-Did Participants feel free to express their thought in any language they chose?**

From students' answers, they employ code switching in social media since it allows them to express their thoughts in any language they know or chose or they want to use. Few of participants suggest that this method does not allow them to express their ideas since they can use and speak only their native language.

**- Did participants use Code switching in social media because they are not active in two languages?**

Finally, according to the data collected, 65% of students use code switching in social media because they claimed that they are not equally active and capable in two languages in terms of pronunciation, phonology, spelling, vocabulary, lexicology and grammar as well. 35% of students answer that they are really competent in two language and mainly this phenomena of code switching came automatically and systematically.

The last section of the questionnaire was committed to any suggestion or suggestions for students want to add or to say something concerning the use of code switching in social media they responded in the following manners:

- ✓ I think code switching in social media is good method because this helps my contact between others. It good topic I wish you all the best.
- ✓ When using code switching in social media I fell so relaxed.
- ✓ To me code switching in social media and in oral expression for better understanding.
- ✓ In my case I use code switching in Social media sites in our studies and our group of messenger, discussions between my classmates and sharing lessons.
- ✓ Code switching aids to have many word le in French and translated to Kabyle.



- ✓ For me, code switching is negative because it is obstacle for learning language as French students. Good luck.
- ✓ Code switching in social media is a kind for collaboration between my friends

***Chapter Six:***  
***Research Implications, Limitations and***  
***Suggestions***

## **1-Limitations of the Study**

Like many other researches, during this modest work we encountered many obstacles we identify and mention some of them; First of all student answers: many students refuse to answer the questionnaire seriously the minority of them answer the question in a random way they do not really take it seriously.

The second difficulty is the language: since our research dealt with whole faculty of Letters and Languages from the different departments like French Arabic and Tamazight, the majority of them they do not really understand English language and the phenomenon of code switching as well, so here we were obliged to translate and interpret it orally into French and even in Arabic so that we can get answers correctly and very intelligible way from students. Furthermore, we couldn't find many types of data that were helpful to our research topic.

Finally, the administration regulation, since they limited the pages number so we are obliged to delete certain elements related to the topic so we are obliged to put only the important ones related to our research question ,problem and research aim and objective. Especially the wave system for study which cause by the corona virus pandemic.

## **2-Pedagogical Implications**

We are interested in topic that importance use of code switching in social media because it very important issue in our today society and lives. Since students are very interested in communication throughout social media by using languages without respecting rules of grammar spelling, pronunciation.The research finding of this research work is very important as linguistics students. The result of this study can be used to develop student's competence in language, when they use code switching, students should respect some rules of grammar, syntax, spelling, punctuation.

### 3-Recommendations

For futures researchers among our experiences during the realization of this research work we recommends some point cited below:

- We recommended future researcher to investigate the use of code switching in oral expression and written expression.
- We suggest for future research to investigate the influence of code switching in language skill among student and teachers.
- The researcher it would be better if they mixed between two methods qualitative by using interview or recording, and quantitative data by using questionnaire or test, this method help researcher to get more clear information in relation to the research problem; aim an your research questions.
- The use of code switching in social media among other faculties at Bejaia University.
- Study the influence of code switching in language use.
- Investigates the influence of code switching between male and female and its influence in their linguistics competence and style.
- The influence of social media in code mixing

## 4-Conclusion

From this part, we can observe that students at Bejaia university use code switching in social media exclusively, we can deduce that language dominants in communication and in chatting via social media is Kabyle language.

In this chapter, we have made an effort to answer the research problem, research aim and research questions by analyzing discussion and the finding of data collected from students of Letters and Languages at Bejaia University.

According to the participant answers for the questionnaire, the students of Letters and Languages at Bejaia University revealed that they use code switching in social media deliberately and voluntary because this method pushes them to develop their linguistics competence and using different language they want to speak..Students use code switching in social media because they claimed that they are not equally active and capable in two languages.

In this chapter, we have mentioned some limitation that we have encountered during this research work, we have already mentioned some implication in relation to our research ,we delivered some further suggestion for future researchers.

## General Conclusion

This research work is entitled “The use of code switching in social media among students of Letter and Languages at Bejaia University. This paper aim is to find out, investigate and describe the factors and reasons that encourage students at Bejaia University faculty of letters and languages to use code switching in their social network interaction as well as their opinion and felling towards the use of code switching in social media.

Our modest work consists of two parts: the theoretical part which was divided into three chapters, First chapter, we dealt with a brief overview of code switching made up of general definition, types, reasons and functions of code switching as well as difference between code switching and code mixing. Second chapter, we presented a brief overview of the second variable of our research which was social media, made up of general definition of key concepts, functions, kinds, advantages and inconvenient of social media. Third chapter dealt with the code switching and social media together, we started this section by giving a brief definition of language contact and social virtual communication according to researchers, Than we present Code switching in social media in relation to Language, it is very important to know how code switching in social media affects in language use. This chapter also shed light to make difference between the use of Code Switching in Twitter and Face book platforms. We finished the theoretical part by giving the reason that push students to use code switching in social media according to research conducted by other researchers.

We have also practical part which was also divided into three chapters, in first chapter we have discussed research design and methods for data collecting that was conducted during this research, which was quantitative, close-ended question we decided to use this methods because this method was not really complicated and difficult for students to answer the questionnaire easily and in clear way, this also help us to get reliable and logical information. Second section consist with

analyzing the questionnaire gather by students and this was followed by graphs and tables. Second chapter, we had already discussed the findings for all section and questions that was asked for students in questionnaire. Last chapter, we mentioned the implication in our research work, limitation and recommendation and suggestions to further researchers.

According to results, we can observe that the majority of the students of Letters and languages at Bejaia University use social media networks exclusively, this research work was to find out and explore student's attitude and feeling towards the use of code switching in social media. From the gathered information, the participants feel that code switching has a beneficial issue on their daily life; only a few student believe it has a negative issue, according to students suggestions this is because many students' use code switching in social media as a method to develop their contact, and socializing between each others.

The participants were asked about reason of using code switching in social media, After analyzing the result, students believe that they use code switching in social media mostly because it helps them in learning outcomes such as research project, preparing exam in messenger group, According to the data collected, students use code switching in social media because they claimed that this tool it helps them to improve and develop their linguistics competence by using different language they master, from this we can observe that student's use code switching in social media deliberately and consciously because it is very helpful for better understanding in chatting via social media or in oral communication, also they are not really good in two or three languages and this also helps them to develop their linguistics by using different language they master or they know or wish to use.

To sum up, this result of this analysis should mainly help people to understand the reason why students of letters and languages at Bejaia University's use and employ code switching in social media network in their discussion, publications, and comments.

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# ***Appendix***



10-Code switching in social media is positive because, it helps me in learning outcomes:

- a) Yes       b) No

11-Code switching via social media helps me to improve my linguistics competence:

- a) Yes       b) No

12-I use CS in social media because it allows me to express my thoughts in any language I chose or I want to use

- Yes       b) No

13- I use code switching because I am not active in two languages:

- a) Yes       b) No

14- If you have any other important information about topic, please feel free to add them in the space bellow.

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Thank you