
CODE-MIXING IN TELUGU- ENGLISH BY COLLEGE STUDENTS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

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Abstract

Bi/multilingualism has become the mode of the communication for many people in this modern world. Numerous languages are used by different speech communities. One feature of bi/multilingual societies is that the speakers have a tendency to be acquainted with two or more languages. In India also exist in a bilingual contact situation typically has the tendency to use two or more languages when they communicate with others along with their mother tongue. Code-mixing is known to be the mixing of the codes by the speakers while they use different languages, and it is used as a linguistic device during their communication. The present effort aimed at exploring the features of code -mixed Telugu and English among college students in Andhra Pradesh.

Keywords: Bilingual, Code mixing, College Students, Communication, English, Bi/multilingual, Telugu.

1. Introduction

The investigation of language in a social context is called Sociolinguistics. The definition includes both the ways in which humans use different linguistic forms to determine their social position, and also the way in which speakers customize their linguistic behaviors to the social context in which they are speaking. Joshua Fishman (1974) expounded the Sociology of language is the manifestation of societal aspects of language behavior. This sociology of language investigates not only the use of language but also the social organization to its behavior which includes language attitudes etc. On the other hand, dynamic sociolinguistics pursues the answers to the question to underline contexts for use and behavior in the social organization of language which is in general at different rates.

William Labov, renowned for his achievement in studies on variability in everyday language data, ignored bilingual speech patterns; no one can deny that there is a lot to learn from research on bilingualism. Code alternation is a widespread phenomenon in a bilingual/multilingual society is code mixing and code switching across the languages in contact. In India, bilingual people use Code Mixing (CM) of native language and English which is known to be a prevalent speech behavior and it is well investigated by several Indian linguists in wide variety of aspects. Code-switching and mixing are the predictable linguistic consequences of Bi/Multilingualism.

In order to establish the communication, CM can be an efficient strategy. In this regard, the present study is aimed at exploring the features of Telugu–English CM during the routine conversations of college students in Andhra Pradesh by observing the way in which they combine English and Telugu. Moreover, the study will disclose not only the amount of CM which takes place but also its nature.

Review of Literature

Different types of researches have been carried out in the area of code-mixing. In the area of code-mixing, mixed language used in spoken mixed communication plays a vital role in the study of recorded mixed discourse analysis. Some of reviews focused on Hindi-English, Hindi-Urdu-Telugu, Tamil-English mixed which constitute words, blend words or sentences, identified there alternative use of two languages in same sentence. From recorded the respondents narrations based on the picture story shown to them was recorded. This method was very close to recording natural conversations. From the review of the research we can see that not much has been done by Telugu-English (bilinguals') way of using languages mixing in their informal conversations. Hence this present work focuses on language mixing in college students by Andhra Pradesh in general Guntur city in specific, with reference to college students.

Methodology

The paper has investigated the phenomenon of language alternation exhibited by students based on discourse data of bilingual Guntur students from informal spontaneous speech, natural conversations and observations. The qualitative research approach was used to collect the data. The data collection procedure took 30 days. The researcher recorded 18 informal conversations among which four turned out poor in recording while two were incomplete. Each recording took 15-20 minutes. Finally the researcher transcribed 12 audio recordings carefully to discover the reality about the claim that students used code-mixing as a communicative strategy.

Data Analysis of recorded data

The speech samples in the form of informal conversations of the 60 students from different colleges in Guntur district head courters Guntur city in Andhra Pradesh. The data was examined with regard to code-mixing revealed. The researcher also attempted to explain the probable reasons for lexical borrowing and mixing.

The recorded speech samples were examined to verify the extent of CM in the real framework and a simple percentage method was used for the analysis of proposed objective. The percentage of CM (code-mixes) was calculated by the following equation:

$$\% \text{ of CM} = \frac{\text{total number of words} + \text{total number of mixed words}}{\text{total number of words}} \times 100$$

In some cases, the morphemes from different languages (speed *ga:* Publicity +*ni*), the word(s) were counted as mixed words.

Percentage of CM:

Several informal instances of CM were recorded in the spontaneous natural conversation. As per the CM guidelines, there are 1070 mixed words of total 2692 words and it suggests that the corpus consists of CM of 39.74%. Most of the speakers mixed English words during the conversations about future plans, class subjects, studies, media, news, etc.

Hierarchy of mixed constituents

The study found that by the Telugu English bilinguals, CM occurred very frequently in the form of lexical insertions. Moreover, the study observed that at very often the complete sentence is switched and this takes only with skilled bilinguals, whereas mixing of nouns, verbs, or use of English words with Telugu inflections by less fluent bilinguals. Of total English words used the number of nouns and verbs used predominantly. Therefore, it was concluded that there is abundant use of verbs, adverbs, conjunctions and prepositions from English in Telugu discourse. On other hand, nouns account for the largest proportion of mixes; underline reason for the extensive use of nouns is they are relatively free of syntactic restrictions.

Table 1
Hierarchy of mixed English constituents

Mix type	Frequency(in number)	%
Noun	486	45.42
Verb	177	16.54
Noun + Postposition	141	13.17
Adjective	113	10.56
Adverb	37	3.45
Noun + Case	36	3.42
Pronoun	21	1.96
Noun + Verbalizer	21	1.96
Conjunction	17	1.58
Verb + Verbalizer	11	1.02
Preposition	10	0.93
Total	1070	100

From the recorded informal conversations, the study found the distribution of English and mixed word classes and it is provided in **Table 1**. The analysis suggests that the noun is predominant use that accounts for 45.42 % of the total mixed codes followed by the verb which accounts for 16.54%, followed by adjectives, noun + postposition, adverb, noun + case markers, noun + verbalizer, verb+ verbalizer, conjunction, preposition, and pronoun. The recorded data shows mixed constituents in the informal conversations, where Telugu affixes are added to English words. The mixed words are found during the informal conversations and these are presented in **Table 2**. It is established that, during mixing, English nouns with Telugu case markers is the most preferred category. Often English words are used as nouns, verbs, adverbs, and adjectives. Moreover, the English nouns or verbs are also used with a verbalized postposition of a noun.

Table 2
List of mixed (Telugu + English) words obtained from the recorded data

Mixed Words	Meaning	Word Class
Serious <i>ga:</i>	Seriously	Adverb
Pure <i>ga:</i>	Purely	Adverb
Careful <i>ga:</i>	Carefully	Adverb
Heavy <i>ga:</i>	Heavily	Adverb
Regular <i>ga:</i>	Regularly	Adverb
Direct <i>ga:</i>	Directly	Adverb
Reasoning <i>ga:</i>	Reasonably	Adverb
Happy <i>ga:</i>	Happily	Adverb
Thrilling <i>ga:</i>	Thrilling	Adjective
Disturb <i>ga:</i>	Disturbed	Adjective
Tasty <i>ga:</i>	Tasty	Adjective
Late <i>ga:</i>	Late	Adjective
Hungry <i>ga:</i>	Hungry	Adjective
Bore <i>ga:</i>	Boring	Adjective

The Telugu students attached suffix 'ga' to English The adjectives; usually 'ga' is equivalent to the English adverbial suffix 'ly' eg: serious (adjective) + ga (ly) = seriously.

Table 3
List of mixed (Telugu + English) words obtained from the recorded data

Mixed Words	Meaning	Word Class
Compulsory <i>a:</i>	Is it compulsory?	Question marker
Family <i>a:</i>	Is it family?	Question marker
Animation <i>a:</i>	Is it animation?	Question marker
Exam <i>a:</i>	Is it exam?	Question marker
Internals <i>a:</i>	Is it internals?	Question marker
Physics <i>a:</i>	Is it physics?	Question marker
Formulas <i>a:</i>	Is it formulas?	Question marker
Life <i>a:</i>	Is it life?	Question marker
Stage fear <i>a:</i>	Is it stage fear?	Question marker
Specification <i>a:</i>	Is it specification?	Question marker
Placement <i>a:</i>	Is it placement?	Question marker

In Telugu syntax there is no subject - verb inversion for a question. In Telugu 'a:' has the effect of turning a word/phrase into a question. 'a:' is simply added to an English noun to turn it into a question.

Table 4
List of mixed (Telugu + English) words obtained from the recorded data

Mixed Words	Meaning	Word Class
University <i>lo:</i>	In university	N+ locative case/ post position
Holidays <i>lo:</i>	In holidays	N+ locative case/ post position
College <i>lo:</i>	In college	N+ locative case/ post position
Physics <i>lo:</i>	In physics	N+ locative case/ post position
Pharmacy <i>lo:</i>	In pharmacy	N+ locative case/ post position
Research <i>lo:</i>	In research	N+ locative case/ post position
Mind <i>lo:</i>	In mind	N+ locative case/ post position
Distance <i>lo:</i>	In distance	N+ locative case/ post position

In Telugu '*lo*' is a suffix which roughly (usually) means 'in' in English. Telugu has Postpositions instead of prepositions.

Table 5
List of mixed (Telugu + English) words obtained from the recorded data

Mixed Words	Meaning	Word Class
Exposure <i>ni</i>	Exposure	N + Accusative case
Life <i>ni</i>	Life	N+ Accusative case
TV Channel <i>ni</i>	TV channel	N+ Accusative case
Youth <i>ni</i>	Youth	N+ Accusative case
News <i>ni</i>	News	N+ Accusative case
Change <i>ni</i>	Change	N+ Accusative case
Topic <i>ni</i>	Topic	N+ Accusative case
Culture <i>ni</i>	Culture	N+ Accusative case
Salt <i>ni</i>	Salt	N+ Accusative case
Water <i>ni</i>	Water	N+ Accusative case
Chillies <i>ni</i>	Chillies	N+ Accusative case

English does not have case system, but '*ni*' in Telugu is equivalent to the accusative case.

Table 5
List of mixed (Telugu + English) words obtained from the recorded data

Mixed Words	Meaning	Word Class
Decision <i>e:</i>	Decision	N+ emphatic+ particle
Total <i>anTe:</i>	Total means	N+ complimentizer
Feeling <i>e:</i>	Feeling	N+ emphatic+ particle

Super <i>e</i> :	Super (Adjective)	N+ emphatic+ particle
Famous <i>e</i> :	Famous(Adjective)	N+ emphatic+ particle
Power full <i>e</i> :	Power full	N+ emphatic+ particle
Sentiment <i>e</i> :	Sentiment	N+ emphatic+ particle
Rubber <i>e:dira</i> :	Where is the Rubber?	N+Question marker+ addressive marker.
Lab <i>undira</i> :	Lab is there?	N+ Addressive marker
Scale <i>e:dira</i> :	Where is the Scale?	N+Question marker+ addressive marker.
Hall ticket <i>e:dira</i> :	Where is the Hall ticket?	N+Question marker+ addressive marker.
Sir <i>e:Dira</i> :	Where is Sir?	N+ Question marker+ addressive marker.
Answer <i>e:dira</i> :	Where is the Answer?	N+ Question marker+ addressive marker.
Cell <i>e:dira</i> :	Where is the Cell?	N+ Question marker+ addressive marker.
Pencil <i>e:dira</i> :	Where is the Pencil?	N+ Question marker+ addressive marker.
Sir <i>ga:Du</i>	Sir (informal)	Addressive marker

'*e*' is frequently used to add emphasis to the noun and *ra*: is used as addressive marker in colloquial style.

Table 6

List of mixed (Telugu + English) words obtained from the recorded data

Mixed Words	Meaning	Word Class
Lecturers <i>ki</i>	To lecturers	N+ Dative case.
Village <i>ki</i>	To village	N+ Dative case.
Temple <i>ki</i>	To temple	N+ Dative case.
room <i>ki</i>	To room	N+ Dative case.
Patients <i>ki</i>	To patients	N+ Dative case.
Movie <i>ki</i>	To movie	N+ Dative case.
Canteen <i>ki</i>	To canteen	N+ Dative case.
Zoo <i>ki</i>	To zoo	N+ Dative case.
Get together <i>ki</i>	To get together	N+ Dative case.
Amerika <i>wa:llaki</i>	For Americans	N+addressive Marker+ accusative Marker.

In Telugu '*ku*' or '*ki*' is a suffix attached to nouns which in different contexts means 'to' or 'for'.

Table 7**List of mixed (Telugu + English) words obtained from the recorded data**

Mixed Words	Meaning	Word Class
Police <i>wa:llu:</i>	Police	Noun + plural marker
Company <i>lu:</i>	Companies	N+ plural marker
State level <i>lu:</i>	State level	N+ plural marker
Rank <i>lu:</i>	Ranks	N+ plural marker
Certificate <i>lu:</i>	Certificates	N+ plural marker
Announcement <i>lu:</i>	Announcements	N+ plural marker
Class <i>lu</i> (class+ <i>lu</i>)	Classes	N+ plural marker
Paper <i>lu</i> (paper+ <i>lu</i>)	Paper's	N+ plural marker
Topic <i>lu</i>	Topics	N+ plural marker
Rank <i>lu</i>	Ranks	N+ plural marker

'*lu*' is a suffix in Telugu which is a plural marker attached to English nouns.

Table 8**List of mixed (Telugu + English) words obtained from the recorded data**

Mixed Words	Meaning	Word Class
Notifications <i>u</i>	Notification	N+ Nominative.
Ranks <i>u</i>	Ranks	N+ Nominative.
Certificates <i>u</i>	Certificates	N+ Nominative.
Rank cards <i>u</i>	Rank card	N+ Nominative.
Facilities <i>u</i>	Facility	N+ Nominative.
Salaries <i>u</i>	Salary	N+ Nominative.
Resistance power <i>u</i>	Resistance power	N+ Nominative.
Staying <i>u</i>	Staying	N+ Nominative.
Politics <i>u</i>	Politics	N+ Nominative.
Announcement <i>u</i>	Announcement	N+ Nominative.
Elections <i>u</i>	Elections	N+ Nominative.
Administrator <i>u</i>	Administrator	N+ Nominative.
Remunerations <i>u</i>	Remunerations	N+ Nominative.

'*u*' is a typical Telugu inflection attached to English words.

The category - wise examples listed above show the ease with which the students attached Telugu suffixes to English nouns and adjectives. Samples of the recorded conversations of the Telugu speakers of English are given below. Of the various topics discussed, most were about their work/education/seminar/record work and other friends and colleagues. They are informal conversations among friends about traffic, or record work which they are supposed to submit in a stipulated time. The young speakers switched from one language to another in order to facilitate understanding when communicating. Most of the

speakers can speak in the two languages, since they have been educated through English medium and grew up using Telugu language in their day-to-day communication.

Few examples from the recorded corpus

1. Pada: let's see! What happened?
2. This is not mine annama: ta.?
3. (a) Hey! Lakshmi cu: du entha simple ga: cutiga: undo:.

A man to his friend uttered (1) the entire sentence is in English except the beginning which is unnecessary. In example (2) the 'anama:' the speaker once again confirms that the particular object which does not belong to him with the word 'annama: ta'. Some time it's also used in sarcastic manner. In example (3) in Telugu, most adverbs are formed by adding ga: to the objective which are generally borrowed from English.

E.g. cute ga:, simple ga: beautiful ga:, rich ga:, neat ga:, slow ga:, rare ga:.

Whenever an adverb is required, brain unconsciously searches for an apt adjunctive and a-ga:, and this is responsible for the sentence ending in (2) sentence (3) is by English medium educated students who habitually code-mix between English and Telugu. The sentence 3 was by a student studying in an engineering college, talking about one of her friend's attire. In all the three examples, the base language is English and the mixers are from Telugu.

- a) e:m bidda ardhamainda:.
- b) rendumonth ayindi a:yanaku jabocci.
- c) anna:! Oka 50 rupees oil po:yyi.

a) A senior was warning aware of an incident ardhamainda: is very frequently used among young Guntur to mean "understand".

b) It was an unexpected sentence and this utterance is by an Engineering college Electronics lecturer, who had been staying in Guntur for last 20 years it violated usual code-switching norms in that the numerical quantifier in Telugu but name of the month in English and quantifier are in Telugu. Through it sounds odd it is grammatical and acceptable in a bilingual and bicultural setup.

c) The speaker had said it in Telugu-English because of time constraint and currency of the verb. He did not say it in English through it is just like poyyi (pour) and the listener is a Telugu speaking and interlocutor r in English speakers

Generally it is assumed that borrowings are morphologically and syntactically integrated, where as code-mixer are not. Guntur lingo doesn't exhibit this distinction and often there is a lot of variation in morphological patterns for the 'borrowed' items.

For instance:

- 1) Cheque, chekkulu, cheques, chequesu
- 2) Municipal office- munisifala:fi:s, munsifala:fi:s
- 3) Computer jabu,
- 4) softwe:rujabu,
- 5) Kiran government,

6) sarkarkaburlu,

7) 108 vya:nu

Most of the young college students borrowing, code mixes, switches in their day to day conversations exhibit variation and some unpredictability with respect to linguistic environment but exhibit correlation with social factors. So, we cannot differentiate borrowing from code-mixing on the basis of morphological modification. At phonetic level also, one can notice integration or photo-tactic adaptation even in switching and also visible at syntactic level integration. Also some idiomatic usages can be treated as “invisible” switches.

Morphological adaptation is more for nouns than for other categories. Generally, in all compound nouns, the last word gets that final vowel 'U' and not the initial words. However, if the previous noun in a compound word serves as adjective, morphological adaptations or some kind of emphasis (or stress) is shown on the first noun.

- Eg:
- 1) congress meeting – congress metingu
 - 2) Pink card – pinku ka:rdu
 - 3) Guntur mirchi bajji – Gunturu mirchi bajji
 - 4) Pension scheme – pinchani/ pensnski:mu
 - 5) Damber road – damber (U) roddu
 - 6) Krishna water – Krishna wa:taru
 - 7) 23 carat gold – 23 ke:rat go:ldu

More often one English and Telugu word accurse in day to day conversation.

- 1) Good + anna – guddanna: (to elders)
- 2) Super+china – superchinna: (to encourage youngsters)
- 3) Candle+veliginu – candileligincu
- 4) Ice+ka:wa:la: - iska:wa:la:
- 5) Tea+ceppu – teajeppu

English bound morpheme get 'glutinated' to words from Telugu Ex: he always battify (memorize mechanically) Market kaburlu. Here selection of adjectives and adverbs is from English. Adverbs are also formed by using the ga:marker. 'Conjunction' are mostly from English often with a stress the most frequent sentence connector being “so” then ‘and’ and ‘but’ Examples with suffix ga:

- 1) Frequentga: cu:sta:nu but selected ga:
- 2) Coolga:undu
- 3) Headachemild ga:unte :: tablet we:cuko
- 4) Hotga:, smart ga:, rapid ga:, rare ga:
- 5) Super ga: unditaste (U)
- 6) Jo:ruga: wellaka! Kushi:ga:.....

We many also find variation in the following construction. Nouns rather than other categories, get modify because of case affixes which are generally drawn from Telugu only an

agreement (number) markers which marker 'lu' to English is expected. But-in Guntur Telugu the reverse may happen i.e., adding 'S' to native words.

Ex: kaba:bs, chais, tikkas = takkalu

Pa:ns – pa:nlu, pa:nipu:ri:s=pa:nipu:ri:lu

Mantris, chapatisetc

Findings

This paper examines the features of CM Telugu and English of young students in Guntur city in Andhra Pradesh. Most of the student's is to use English with their mother tongue is becoming widespread phenomenon. It is emphasized that for the ideology of modernity with progress and tradition with cultural value, the English and native languages, respectively, are perennial. It is observed that in local Telugu media, the mixing of languages is prevalent which evident from the extensive use of English words in electronic (televisions, FM radios, TV programs) and print (newspapers) media, and this leads to the significance of natives languages is gradually faded in the modern society.

The findings of the study are the speakers are not much conscious about their mix of the two languages during their routine conversations. This paper explains with the aim of mixed codes. Entitles Tenglish (Telugu +English mix), is flattering a trendy among the youngsters. The mixed code of the college students in Andhra Pradesh is slowly speeding its roots. The mix let used by the youth in routine conversation and CM in electronic and print media paves to evolving of a new language system.

The school or college environment is English only; during informal conversation the youth mix the codes which forms natural way of speaking. When the sentence structures of two codes approach collectively, very frequently the syntax of the two languages are not changed but sometimes this interface lead to the contact of the two grammars, and therefore evolving a new linguistic system. It is evident that code-mixing does result in the development of a new hybrid grammar. Single words like nouns, adjectives or verbs can be mixed more easily than full constituents. The integration hierarchy of single words can vary from one language pair to another.

Conclusion

Here mixing triumphs largely in the domains of science and technology, sports, business, trade, stock market, fashion industry and modern urban culture. Mixed codes signify a development of the lexical resources of the speech community rather than suppression of Telugu vocabulary and neutralization not only by choosing an item from English but also avoiding the use of linguistic item from traditional, cultural and emotional connotations. Education, mass media, films, FM radios, entertainment circles, tourism and upward mobility and other kinds of exposure are seen not only in the upper strata society of but also in the middle class. All are simultaneously contributing to the complexity of bi/multi-lingual language patterns of bi/multi-lingual society.

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