

Phitcharie Koanamsai 2014: Code-switching between Central Thai and Northeastern Thai on Facebook. Master of Arts (Applied Linguistics), Major Field: Applied Linguistics, Department of Linguistics. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Chamaipak Tayjasant, Ph.D. 152 pages.

This research examines code-switching between Central Thai and Northeastern Thai on Facebook. It aims to study code-switching of Northeastern Thai Facebook users for regarding the proportion of using Central Thai and Northeastern Thai, to analyze types and functions of code-switching, and to discuss the influence of age and gender on code-switching. The data were statuses and comments of the sample group. The results are shown in percentage and chi-square.

The results have shown the highest frequency of Central Thai and Northeastern Thai on Facebook users' statuses and comments are in Central Thai, Northeastern Thai, Central Thai and Northeastern Thai, and Central Thai or Northeastern Thai mixed with other languages. Moreover, three types of code-switching are found: intra-sentential switching, inter-sentential switching, and tag switching. The most frequently found was tag switching, followed by intra-sentential switching and inter-sentential switching. Furthermore, this study has also found fourteen functions of code-switching: declaration, question shift, emphasis, interjection, invitation, clarification, rejection, gratitude, encouragement, directive, request, irony, translation, and blessing. The function of declaration is used the most.

There is also the relation between age and the proportion of code-switching and types of code-switching but there is not difference in statistics between age and functions of code-switching at 0.05; yet gender does not seem to influence code-switching at 0.05. The results have indicated the role of Central Thai and Northeastern Thai in computer-mediated communication, and also have implication for further code-switching studies.

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