

Chor.Dolruedee Petchayapaisit 2010: Language Use of Chinese-Singaporean Speakers in Singapore. Master of Arts (Applied Linguistics), Major Field: Applied Linguistics, Department of Linguistics. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Wipakorn Wongthai, M.A. 161 pages.

The objectives of this research were one) To study language choice in English language and Mandarin language in seven domains are family, friend, neighbor, business transaction, education, government and employment Two) To study refusal strategies of Chinese-Singaporean speakers in Singapore which include request, suggestion, invitation and offer Three) To study the strategies is also related to the social status of interlocutors.

Sample for the study consists of Chinese-Singaporean speaks both English language and Mandarin language which they are live in Singapore. Data collected consists of two parts: part one, personnel data and language choice in seven domains. Part two, using Discourse Completion Test answered by 50 Chinese-Singaporean speakers in Singapore.

The data result as one) Language use of Chinese-Singaporean use English language in domain business transaction, government and employment and use Mandarin language in domain family, friendship, neighbor and education. Two) Twelve refusal strategies use by Chinese-Singaporean speaker in Singapore. They can be divided into the direct, and the indirect type. Direct strategies found two direct refusals. As for the indirect type and , there are ten strategies: reason, consideration of interlocutor's feelings, suggestion of willingness, let interlocutor off the hook, statement of regret, hedging, statement of principle, criticize the request / requester and suggestion. Three) The choice of these strategies is related to Request, Invitation, Suggestion and Offer. The choice of the strategies is also related to the social status of interlocutors. Direct strategies use with interlocutor's lower status and indirect strategies use with interlocutor's higher status. The data show that most of them use the indirect refusal strategies in reasoning.

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Thesis Advisor's signature