

INVESTIGATING CODE MIXING PHENOMENA IN LIVY RENATA'S YOUTUBE COMMUNICATION

Raysha Zahra Harahap¹, Selviana Napitupulu²

¹²Universitas HKBP Nommensen Pematangsiantar

Email: rayshazahrahrp@gmail.com, selviana.napitupulu@uhnp.ac.id

Abstract

Code mixing is an increasingly common linguistic phenomenon in Indonesian digital communication, particularly on YouTube platforms where content creators such as Livy Renata use a mixture of Indonesian and English to communicate with their multilingual audiences. This study aims to analyze the types of code mixing used by Livy Renata in her YouTube video "Spend a Day with Livy and Reemar in Sydney" based on Hoffman's theory (1991). This study employed a qualitative descriptive method with data collection techniques through observation and video transcription. Data were analyzed using Hoffman's code-mixing categories which include intra-sentential, intra-lexical, and involving change of pronunciation. Of the 50 code mixing instances identified, intra-sentential code mixing was dominant, with the majority of occurrences at the sentence level, followed by phrases and words. Intra-lexical code mixing appeared minimally, while no code-mixing involving change of pronunciation was found. The dominance of intra-sentential code mixing, particularly at the sentence level, reveals Livy Renata's high bilingual proficiency and her ability to seamlessly integrate complete English sentence structures within Indonesian discourse without disrupting communication flow.

Keywords : *Code mixing, Livy Renata, Youtube, communication*

INTRODUCTION

Language plays a crucial role in human communication, serving not only as a tool to convey meaning but also as a means of expressing identity and social belonging. In multilingual societies such as Indonesia, individuals frequently use more than one language in daily interactions. One common linguistic phenomenon arising from this condition is code mixing, which refers to the use of elements from two or more languages within a single utterance or sentence. Code mixing often functions as a communicative strategy to enhance clarity, express personal identity, or create a more relaxed and relatable interaction.

In the digital era, the practice of code mixing has become increasingly visible, particularly on social media platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok. Content creators often use mixed languages to accommodate diverse audiences and to present their

messages in a more natural and engaging way. The influence of globalization has also contributed to the widespread use of English in Indonesian digital communication, especially among younger generations. As stated by Muysken (2000), code mixing commonly occurs in bilingual environments where speakers shift between languages to suit communicative needs and social contexts. Code mixing is the use of two languages to another in the course of single utterance. According Bhatia and Ritchie in Pello, (2019:12), code mixing refers to the mixing of various linguistic units (morpheme, words, modifiers, phrases, clauses and sentence) primarily from two participating grammatical system within a sentence. It means that code mixing is mixing of various linguistic units in a sentence. According to Wardhaugh as quoted in Hossain (2015:127), code mixing occurs when speakers use two languages simultaneously, even in one utterance. In other words, code mixing involves the use of two languages in one sentence or communication context. According to Rohmah (2019: 3), code-mixing refers to the use of two or more language variants in one sentence, where the use of these languages is mixed with each other. In other words, code-mixing occurs when someone combines two or more languages in one utterance. Based on explanation above code mixing is use of two or more languages together in a single utterance they mix from one language to other language. Hoffman (1991, p. 112) identifies three types of code mixing, namely:

1) Intra-sentential

Intra-sentential code mixing occurs when speakers switch languages within a sentence, phrase, or clause. This type of code mixing is common among bilinguals who are comfortable switching between languages while maintaining the grammatical structure of the sentence.

Ex: "Saya pergi ke mall yesterday untuk membeli baju baru."

(Using Indonesian and English within one sentence.)

2) Inter-Lexical

This type of code mixing occurs when the speaker incorporates word boundaries into their speech. In this context, the writer categorized intra-lexical code mixing into two types: prefix and suffix.

Ex: "Dia sudah re-apply untuk beasiswa."

“Dia adalah seorang painter yang terkenal”

- 3) Extra-sentential or Tag Code Mixing This involves using a word or phrase from another language as a tag at the end of a sentence. The tag usually does not change the overall meaning of the sentence.

Ex: "Kamu sudah makan, right?" (Using the tag "right" from English at the end of an Indonesian sentence.)

One Indonesian content creator who frequently employs code mixing is Livy Renata. Livy Renata was born March 26, 2002 in Jakarta. Livy Renata is an Indonesian content creator and actress of Chinese descent. Since childhood, Livy has lived in a multicultural environment, which has made her master four languages, namely English, Mandarin, Japanese, and Indonesian. Livy was initially known through online gaming content that she shared on her personal TikTok account, such as Mobile Legends, Valorant, and PUBG. Livy's career continued to grow as she began appearing on various YouTube podcasts and television shows, further expanding her influence in the entertainment world. With her multilingual background and large audience, Livy Renata regularly blends Indonesian and English in her YouTube videos. This language choice has become part of her public identity and helps her connect with viewers from different linguistic backgrounds. Her speech patterns reflect contemporary bilingual communication practices commonly found in informal digital content.

Previous studies have examined code mixing in digital media, including YouTube content, and have discussed its forms, functions, and causes across various communication contexts. Isra, Djou, and Umar (2021) found that code mixing in Gen Halilintar's YouTube videos appears in various linguistic forms, influenced by factors such as identity expression and communicative efficiency. Similarly, Sholihatini et al. (2023) reported that code mixing in social media marketing can increase audience engagement, although it may also lead to misunderstanding for some viewers. These studies indicate that code mixing plays a significant role in digital communication.

However, studies that focus on a detailed analysis of code mixing used by a single Indonesian YouTuber within a specific video context are still limited. Most previous research tends to examine code mixing in a broader scope, without closely observing how code mixing

appears and is distributed at different linguistic levels in one video. To address this gap, a clear theoretical understanding of code mixing is essential. Therefore, this study offers a more focused analysis by examining the types of code mixing used by Livy Renata in a selected YouTube video, providing a clearer description of code-mixing practices in informal digital communication.

RESEARCH METHODE

In this study, the researcher used a qualitative descriptive method because this study aims to analyze the code-mixing phenomenon that appears in Livy Renata's YouTube video. According to Moleong (2010, p.6) qualitative research is a method use to understand phenomena in depth by focusing on the meaning behind data rather than using statistical analysis. Based on the available data, as of December 2025, Livy Renata's YouTube channel has approximately 278 videos. Her content primarily focuses on lifestyle, fashion, beauty, and travel, offering engaging and entertaining material to her audience. Therefore, the research population consists of these 278 videos from Livy Renata's YouTube channel, which provide a rich source of lifestyle and entertainment content. In this research, this study analyzed the video entitled "Spend a day with Livy and Reemar in Sydney" from Livy Renata's YouTube channel. In this research, the writer serves as the main instrument; however, to assist in conducting the research, the writer utilizes supporting tools such as books, pens, a smartphone, a dictionary, and a laptop.

This study used two main data collection techniques: listening and transcribing. In the listening technique, the researcher repeatedly watched Livy Renata's YouTube video with full attention to identify forms of code mixing such as words, phrases, clauses, and sentences. Each utterance containing code mixing was noted for further analysis. After that, the researcher organized the findings into a table based on Hoffman's code-mixing categories. The transcription technique was then used to convert the spoken data from the video into written text, following Sugiyono's (2011) definition of transcription as changing recorded audio data into written form.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Types of Code Mixing

1. Intra-sentential

Intra-sentential code mixing occurs when speakers switch languages within a sentence, phrase, or clause.

a) Phrase

A phrase is a grammatical term referring to a group of words that does not include a subject and verb. Here the example that the writer discussed:

Data 1:

"Kayak my daily live itu super boring"

The phrase "my daily life" is a noun phrase in English consisting of the possessive pronoun "my", the adjective "daily", and the noun "life". This phrase is used in Indonesian sentences without any changes in form or syntax. Because what is mixed is not just one word, but a whole phrase, this is phrase mixing, not word mixing. This language mixing is classified as intra-sentential because it occurs in the same sentence, without any separation between Indonesian and English in the sentence structure.

Data 2:

"Padahal tugasnya tuh ga sesusah my friends ya"

The phrase "my friends" is a noun phrase in English consisting of the possessive pronoun "my" and the plural noun "friends". This phrase functions as a comparative subject in a sentence and is used without changing form. The use of "my friends" in this context may be chosen because it is more concise than its Indonesian equivalent, such as "teman-temanku"

Data 3:

"Kalo misalnya kalian interested on Sydney"

The phrase "interested on Sydney" is a verb phrase in English, where "interested" acts as an adjective and "on Sydney" as a prepositional phrase. However, in correct English, it should be used "interested in Sydney", not "interested on Sydney", because the word "interested" is usually followed by the preposition "in", not "on". Because the phrase "interested in Sydney" consists of more than one word and forms one unit of meaning, it is categorized as a phrase type of code mixing. This language mixing is classified as intra-sentential because it occurs

in the same sentence, where the main part is still in Indonesian, but there is an insertion of English phrases in it.

Data 4:

"My apartment tuh bener-bener gaada apa-apa"

The sentence "My apartment tuh bener-bener gaada apa-apa" is an example of intra-sentential code mixing of phrase type because there is an insertion of English phrases into the Indonesian sentence structure. In this sentence, "My apartment" is an English phrase consisting of a possessive pronoun (My) and a noun (apartment), which is then mixed into an Indonesian sentence. This code mixing is classified as intra-sentential because language mixing occurs in one complete sentence without separating the sentence structure into two parts that are different in language.

Data 5:

"I zoom aja deh mukanya terus"

In this sentence, "I zoom" is an English phrase consisting of a first-person pronoun (I) and a verb (zoom), which is then mixed into a sentence that is predominantly in Indonesian. Code mixing is categorized as intra-sentential because language mixing occurs in one complete sentence without changing the main grammatical structure. In addition, the mixing that occurs is at the phrase level because it is not just one word that is used, but two words that form one unit of meaning, namely "I zoom", which means "saya memperbesar (gambar atau tampilan)".

b) Sentence

A sentence is a group of words giving a complete thought. A sentence must contain a subject and a verb.

Data 1:

"Karena kemarin I tryin to vlog to campus"

The part "I tryin to vlog to campus" is an independent clause in English, which has the subject "I", the predicate "tryin to vlog", and the object of the place description "to campus". This clause stands alone as a complete English sentence structure and is then inserted into a

sentence that begins with Indonesian ("Karena Kemarin"), so this is an example of intra-sentential code mixing, where language switching occurs in the same sentence.

Data 2:

"Tuh lihat, ada tulisan Tap off every time after exiting."

The sentence "Tuh lihat, ada tulisan Tap off every time after exiting." is included in the intra-sentential code-mixing sentence type because in one sentence there is a combination of two languages, where the speaker begins with Indonesian "Look, there is a sign" then continues by inserting a complete English sentence "Tap off every time after exiting" which has an independent meaning as an instruction. This shows the occurrence of language shift in the middle of a sentence which is a characteristic of intra-sentential code mixing.

Data 3:

"Terus habis itu my teacher was like, 'Hey, are you vlogging?'"

in one complete sentence there is a combination of two languages, where the speaker begins with the Indonesian "Terus habis itu" then continues with the English sentence "my teacher was like, 'Hey, are you vlogging?'" This language shift occurs in one sentence unit that shows the characteristics of intra-sentential code mixing, where the speaker smoothly switches between two languages to tell a conversation.

Data 4:

"And there used to be a washing machine di bagian sini, cuman udah diambil juga"

The sentence "And there used to be a washing machine di bagian sini, cuman udah diambil juga" is an example of sentence-type intra-sentential code mixing because there is one clause or complete sentence in English that is inserted into the Indonesian sentence structure. The part "And there used to be a washing machine" is a complete sentence in English because it has a subject (there), predicate (used to be), and object (a washing machine) that convey the full meaning. This sentence is then mixed with another part that uses Indonesian, namely "di bagian sini, cuman udah diambil juga." This phenomenon often occurs in bilingual conversations, especially among speakers who are accustomed to using both English and Indonesian in their daily lives.

Data 5:

“Ok, so can you recap? Kita hari ini ngapain aja?”

The “Ok, so can you recap?” part is a complete sentence in English because it has a subject (you), a predicate (can recap), and a question word (so) that forms a question with a clear meaning. This sentence can stand alone as a complete unit of communication. After that, the next part, which is “Kita hari ini ngapain aja?” uses Indonesian, which means there is language mixing in one sentence.

The dominance of intra-sentential code mixing suggests that bilingual speakers are accustomed to integrating English and Indonesian within a single sentence in informal digital communication. This trend is reflective of broader linguistic shifts in digital spaces, where bilingual speakers, particularly younger generations, seamlessly switch between languages to enhance expression, clarity, or engagement.

2. Intra-Lexical

This type of code mixing occurs when the speaker incorporates word boundaries into their speech. In this context, the writer categorized intra-lexical code mixing into two types: prefix and suffix.

a) Prefix

Prefix are placed at the beginning of a word in order to alter its meaning.

Data 1:

“Nih ayo, kamu review your stanley cup”

The sentence “Nih ayo, you review your Stanley Cup” is an example of prefix-type intra-lexical code mixing because there is language mixing at the word level, precisely on the verb “review”, which is an English word but undergoes a morphological process according to Indonesian rules. In this sentence, the word “review” comes from English which means “meninjau” or “mengulas”, but it is used as a verb in the Indonesian structure. The process of intra-lexical code mixing occurs when this word is combined with Indonesian grammar, for example in the form of changes in affixes such as prefixes. Although in this example the word “review” is still in its basic form without explicit affixes, in other uses forms such as

“mereview” or “nge-review” are often found, which more clearly show the insertion of Indonesian prefixes.

b) Suffix

Suffixes are placed at the end of a word in order to alter its meaning or change the classification of the word.

Data 1:

“Kita di light rail, we waiting”

The sentence “Kita di light rail, we are waiting” is an example of suffix-type intra-lexical code mixing because there is language mixing at the word level, precisely on the verb “waiting”, which is an English word but has undergone a morphological process with the addition of the suffix (-ing) which is typical in English grammar. Because in intra-lexical code mixing, language mixing occurs within one word (not just at the phrase or sentence level), the use of the word “waiting” which has received the suffix (-ing) is still categorized as suffix-type intra-lexical code mixing. Although the suffix “-ing” follows English grammatical rules, it is categorized as intra-lexical code mixing because the English verb forms appear within Indonesian sentence structures and are not part of a fully English syntactic construction.

Data 2:

“I gatau deh, I lying”

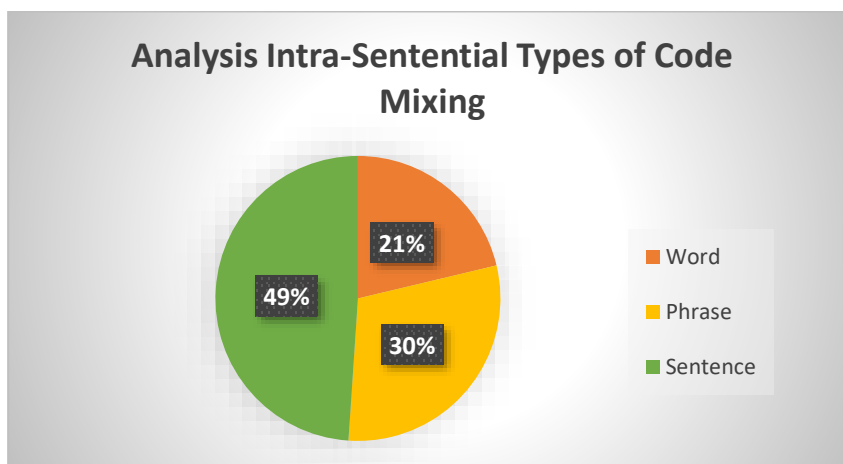
The sentence “I gatau deh, I lying” is an example of suffix-type intra-lexical code mixing because there is a mixing of languages in one word, especially in the verb “lying”, which is a form of English with the addition of the suffix (-ing). In the “I lying” part, the word “lying” comes from the root word “lie” (berbohong) in English, but has undergone morphological changes with the addition of the suffix (-ing) to form the present continuous tense in English grammar. However, in the context of this sentence, the grammatical structure is not in accordance with the correct English rules, because it should be “I am lying” if it follows the standard grammar rules. Although the suffix “-ing” follows English grammatical rules, it is categorized as intra-lexical code mixing because the English verb forms appear within Indonesian sentence structures and are not part of a fully English syntactic construction.

The limited occurrence of intra-lexical code mixing suggests that while there is some level of morphological adaptation in bilingual communication, most instances of code mixing occur at the syntactic level rather than at the word formation level.

Based on the Types of code-mixing, it was found that intra-sentential code mixing was the dominant occurring type, appearing 47 times throughout the analyzed dataset. This indicates that bilingual speakers naturally integrate both languages within a single sentence structure rather than switching languages between sentences or conversations. The breakdown of intra-sentential occurrences is as follows:

- 1) Word level: Appeared 10 data, demonstrating the frequent integration of single English words into Indonesian sentences.
- 2) Phrase level: Identified in 14 data, where English phrases were inserted within Indonesian speech, reflecting a high level of bilingual flexibility.
- 3) Sentence level: This subcategory was the most dominant, occurring 23 data, where entire English clauses or sentences were incorporated within Indonesian discourse.

To provide a clearer picture of the distribution of code-mixing types intra-sentential found in Livy Renata's video, the research data is presented in the following graph:



Based on the analysis of intra-sentential types, it was found that the word level has a percentage of 21%, the phrase level is 30%, and the sentence level dominates with 49%. This shows that the majority of speakers do not only mix languages in the form of words or phrases, but also in the form of more complex sentence structures. The data above shows that the use of code mixing occurs most often at the sentence level, which means that many speakers are more comfortable inserting complete sentences in English into their Indonesian speech rather than just using words or phrases.

In contrast, intra-lexical code mixing appeared much less frequently, occurring only 3 times throughout the dataset. This type of code mixing is characterized by the modification of English words using Indonesian affixes, showcasing linguistic adaptation in informal communication. The breakdown of intra-lexical occurrences is:

- 1) Prefix usage: Appeared only once, highlighting its rarity in the analyzed data set. An example includes “review” where an Indonesian prefix was added to an English verb to fit within local grammatical conventions.
- 2) Suffix usage: Found in 2 data, where Indonesian suffixes were attached to English root words. For example, in phrases such as "lying" and "waiting" English grammatical structures appear within Indonesian sentence patterns.

Intra-lexical code mixing (morphological modifications such as adding prefixes or suffixes to English words) has a much lower frequency, indicating that speakers tend to retain the original structure of English words without much modification.

This study reveals that code mixing is a prominent linguistic feature in Livy Renata’s YouTube communication. The findings indicate that intra-sentential code mixing is the most frequently used type, followed by a very limited occurrence of intra-lexical code mixing. This pattern suggests that Livy Renata tends to mix languages within sentence structures rather than within word forms, reflecting natural bilingual speech behavior in informal digital contexts. The dominance of intra-sentential code-mixing shows that English elements are smoothly integrated into Indonesian sentences without disrupting grammatical structure. This finding supports Hoffman’s (1991) theory that intra-sentential code mixing commonly occurs among fluent bilingual speakers who are comfortable switching between languages. In Livy Renata’s case, this type of code mixing allows her to express ideas more effectively, especially when certain English words or phrases are perceived as more precise, expressive, or familiar to digital audiences.

The frequent use of English words, phrases, and sentences within Indonesian speech also reflects the influence of globalization and digital culture. As a public figure with a multilingual background, Livy Renata uses English not only as a communicative tool but also as part of her identity construction. This finding is in line with Muysken’s (2000) view that code mixing occurs naturally in multilingual environments where speakers shift languages to align with social context and personal expression. In contrast, intra-lexical code mixing appears very minimally in the data. This indicates that Livy Renata rarely modifies English words using

Indonesian morphological elements. Instead, English words are mostly used in their original form. This finding suggests that code mixing in her speech is more lexical and structural rather than morphological. It also shows that bilingual speakers in digital media prefer clarity and fluency over linguistic modification, especially in spontaneous communication such as vlogs.

These findings are consistent with previous studies on code mixing in YouTube content. Isra, Djou, and Umar (2021) found that intra-sentential code mixing was also dominant in Gen Halilintar's YouTube videos, as it allows content creators to communicate naturally while maintaining audience engagement. Similarly, Sholihatin et al. (2023) stated that mixed-language use in digital content can make communication more relatable and appealing, particularly to younger audiences who are familiar with English expressions.

Overall, the results of this study indicate that code mixing in Livy Renata's YouTube communication is not random, but rather a strategic and natural linguistic practice shaped by bilingual competence, digital culture, and digital audience expectations. Her use of code mixing enhances expressiveness and reflects contemporary language use in online media, where boundaries between languages are increasingly flexible.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this study, it can be concluded that code mixing is a dominant linguistic feature in Livy Renata's YouTube video "Spend a Day with Livy and Reemar in Sydney." The analysis identified a total of fifty code-mixing occurrences, with intra-sentential code mixing appearing as the most frequently used type. This includes mixing at the word, phrase, and especially sentence level, which shows that Livy naturally blends Indonesian and English within a single sentence structure.

This pattern reflects the common language behavior of speakers in digital media, particularly among younger generations who are accustomed to switching between languages to enhance clarity, expressiveness, and engagement. Meanwhile, intra-lexical code mixing appeared only three times, indicating that morphological mixing (such as adding prefixes or suffixes) is not commonly used in Livy's speech. This suggests that speakers prefer to use English words in their original form rather than modifying them according to Indonesian grammar.

Overall, the results show that Livy Renata's use of code mixing aligns with natural bilingual communication patterns in online spaces. Her language style also contributes to

creating a relaxed and relatable communication style for her viewers. These findings support previous studies that suggest code mixing can increase audience interest and strengthen communication effectiveness.

REFERENCES

- Hoffmann Charlotte. (1991). *Introduction to Bilingualism* (First Edition). Published 2014 by Routledge. <https://doi.org/DOI:10.4324/9781315842035-3>
- Isra, Z., Djou, D. N., & Umar, F. A. (2021). CAMPUR KODE DALAM KONTEN VIDEO YOUTUBE GEN HALILINTAR TAHUN 2019 Code Mixing in Youtube Video Content of Gen Halilintar in 2019. In *Jambura Journal of Linguistics and Literature* (Vol. 2, Issue 2). <https://ejurnal.ung.ac.id/index.php/jjll>
- Livy Renata. Spend a day with Reemar in Sydney. Youtube. https://youtu.be/sB4-3zNR_rU?si=uFJVEQJ_FGM0zflu
- Moleong, L. J. (2010). *Metodologi penelitian kualitatif* (Revisi). PT Remaja Rosdakarya.
- Muysken, P. (2000). *BILINGUAL SPEECH A TYPOLOGY OF CODE-MIXING*. www.cup.cam.ac.uk
- Pello, Marsyketrisharmal. 2019. An Analysis of Code Mixing Found in Two selected videos by nessi judge. Thesis. Yogyakarta: program Pasca sarjana Universitas Sanata Dharma Yogyakarta
- Rohmah, Anisanur. 2019. Code Mixing Used by the Family of gen Halilintars' vlog. Thesis. Surakarta: program pasca sarjana universitas muhammadiyah.
- Sholihatin, E. (2023). *Analisis Penggunaan Bahasa Campuran (Code-Mixing) Pada Copywriting Dalam Konten Pemasaran Something Di Media Sosial*. 237–257. <https://jurnal.peneliti.net/index.php/JIWP/article/view/5541/3586>