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APPENDIX A

Screen Captures of Selection of Participants

APPENDIX B

Screen Capture of Audrey's Blog
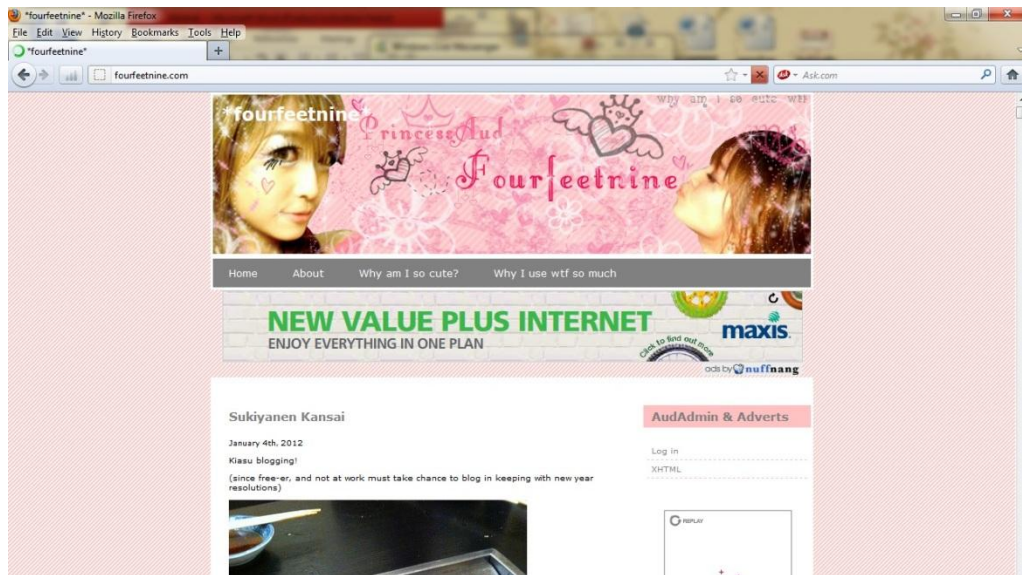
APPENDIX C
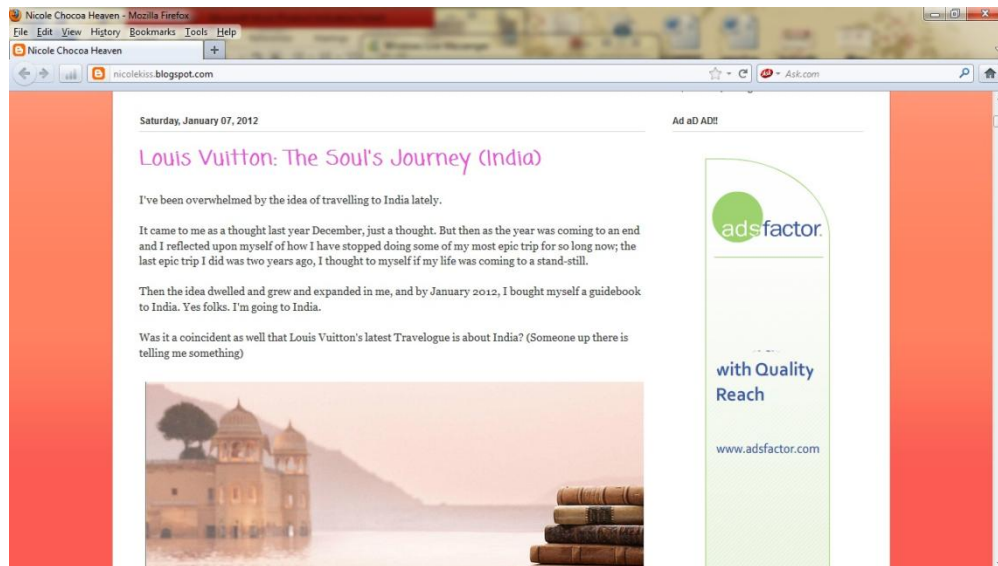
Screen Capture of Cindy's Blog
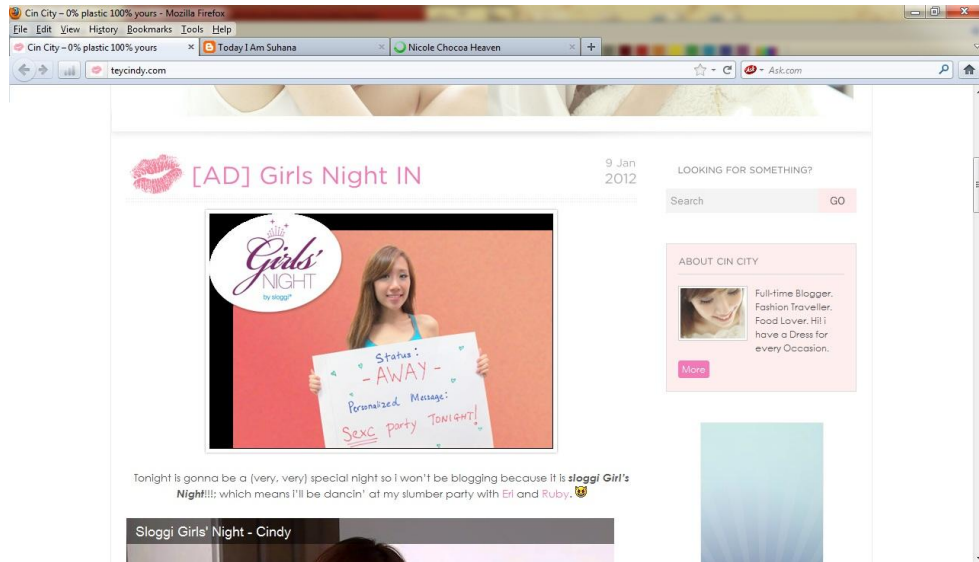
APPENDIX D
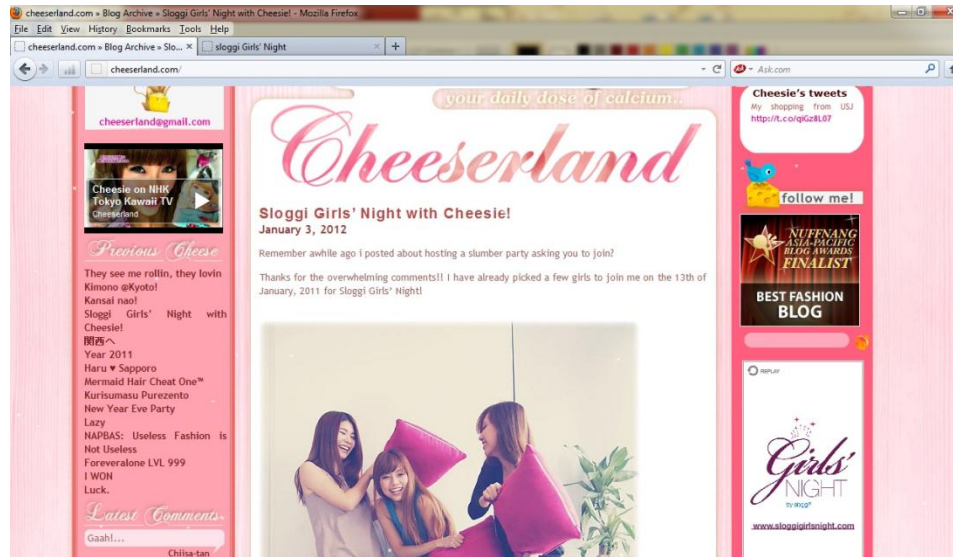
Screen Capture of Cynthia's Blog
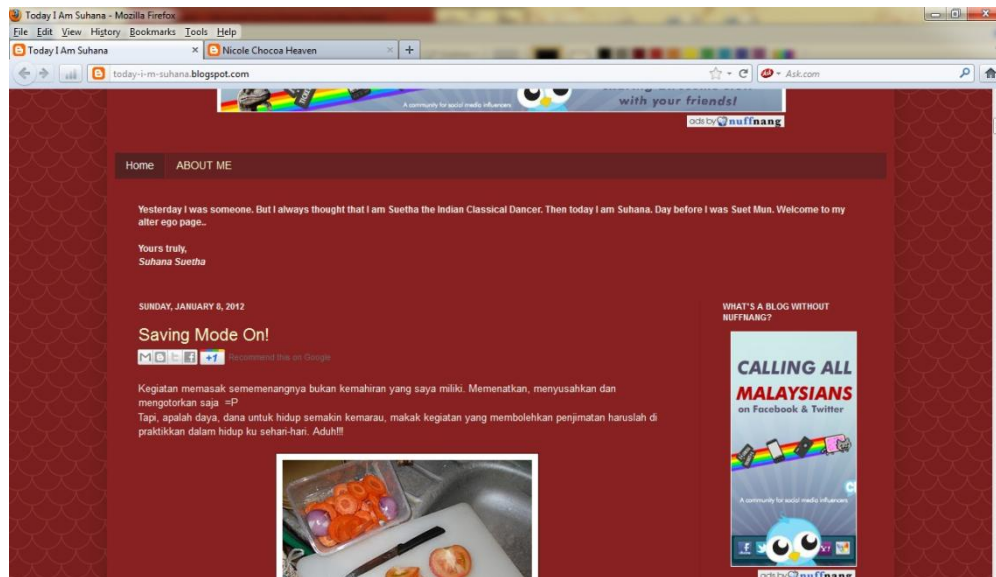
APPENDIX E

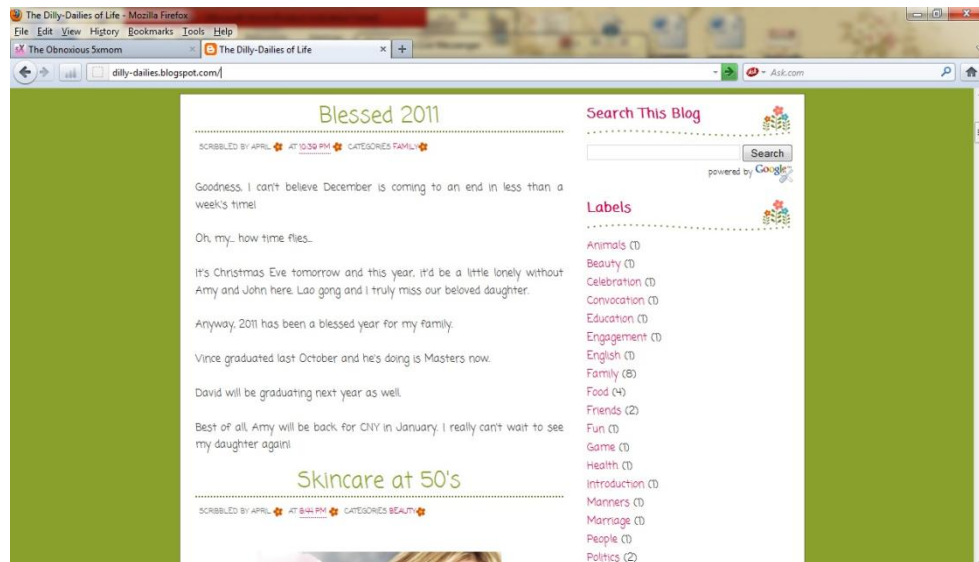## Screen Capture of Nicole's Blog

APPENDIX F

Screen Capture of Ringo's Blog
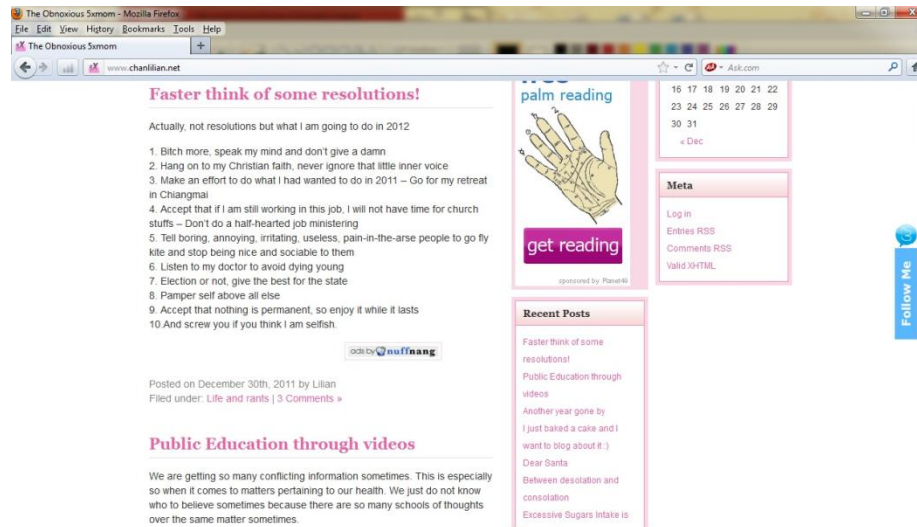
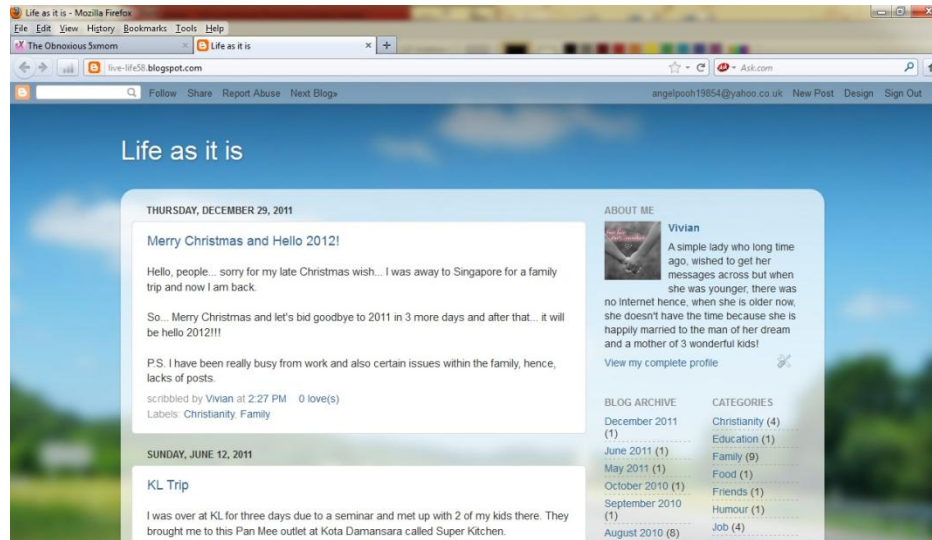# APPENDIX G

Screen Capture of April's Blog

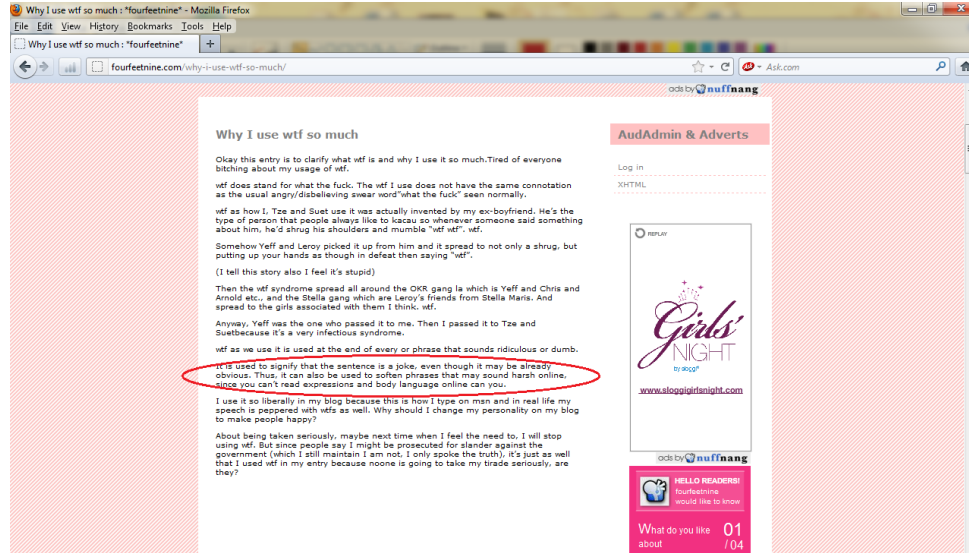# APPENDIX H

Screen Capture of Lilian's Blog

APPENDIX I

Screen Capture of Vivian's Blog

APPENDIX J

Audrey's Explanation on Her use of WTF

"It is used to signify that the sentence is a joke, even though it may be already obvious. Thus, it can also be used to soften phrases that may sound harsh online, since you can't read expressions and body language online can you."

APPENDIX K

Instant Messenger Screen Captures with April

april_▮▮▮▮▮▮.com (Available)
- on http://ebuddy.com Messenger
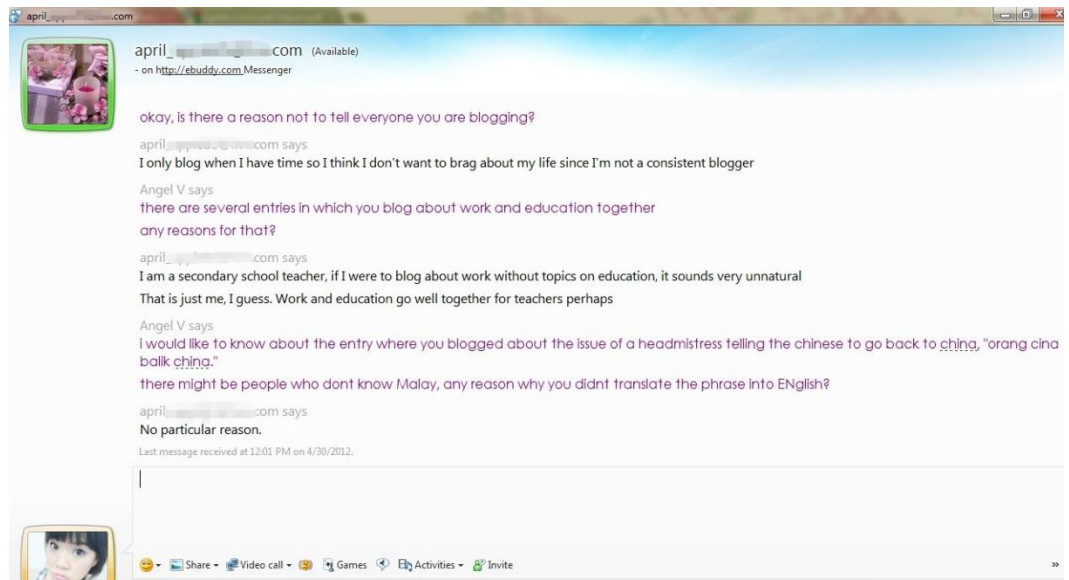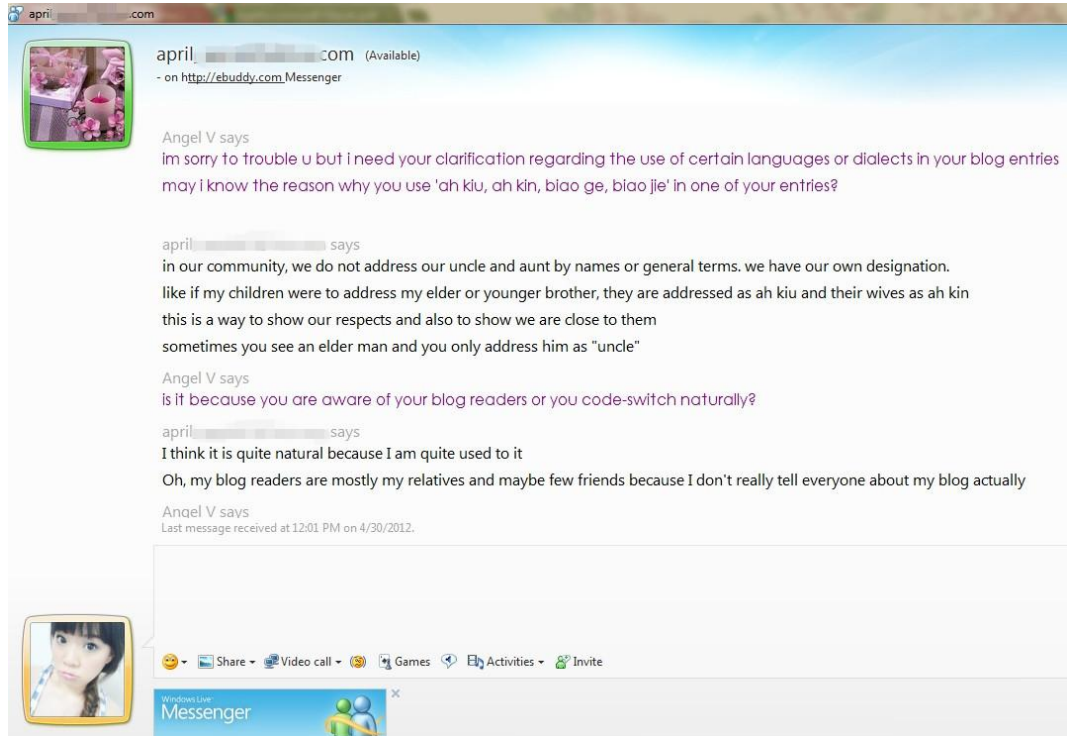
balik china."
there might be people who dont know Malay, any reason why you didnt translate the phrase into ENglish?

april_▮▮▮▮▮▮.com says
No particular reason.

I just quote it from the newspaper. Furthermore, Malay is our national language. If I were to translate that statement into English, it wouldn't sound original

Angel V says
okay, okay, i understand. thank you
one final question
i notice that in most of your entries, you tend to do intersentential code-switching more than intrasentential. oh, do you still remember what inter and intrasentential code-switchings are?

april_▮▮▮▮▮▮.com says
Yes, yes, I do remember.

As the matter of fact, I guess, yes I am saying this from my point of view
during my school days, I was trained to use purely English or Malay in a single context
it is a habit now, unless I finish one sentence in Malay or English, then, I will start with another

Last message received at 12:01 PM on 4/30/2012.

😊 ▾ 📄 Share ▾ 🎥 Video call ▾ ⊙ 🎮 Games ◈ 📑 Activities ▾ 👥 Invite

APPENDIX L

E-mail exchanged with Vivian

Angel Valerie   5:57 PM (14 minutes ago)
Hey, Ms. Leong, I am hoping you'd be able to answer some of my queries regard...

Vivian Leong   6:12 PM (0 minutes ago)
to me

1. Is there any any reason why you code-switch from English into Malay, especially when you are blogging about work and education?
We have been using Malay as our main medium of instruction. In fact, it has been quite some time Malay has been used when it comes to education. We teachers get used to conversing in both Malay and English all the times that we don't even realize when it happens.

2. There are several entries where you discuss about education and work simultaneously. Any reason why you do not blog about them separately?
I don't think I can run away from work when I blog about education. I am a teacher and I talk about my work and also educational issues all the times. Personally, I think I cannot blog about education without mentioning about my work and vice versa. That is the only reason why I cannot blog about both issues separately.

3. What does 'tiek buong wan' mean? Is that a dialect?
It comes from my mother tongue - Foochow. Foochow is one of the more dominant Chinese dialects in Sarawak. 'Tiek buong wan' literally means iron bowl. Foochows often use it as an idiom to refer to a job with stable income.

4. A lot of your entries were about your family - any reason for doing so?
No particular reason. I enjoy talking about my family because for me, family is my top priority besides God.

5. What do 'ah kiu', 'ah kin', 'biao ge', 'biao jie', 'e e', 'e zan' mean? Why is the reason that you address someone with such terms?
Those are terms of endearment among relatives in Foochow. Foochows are quite particular about using the correct terms of endearment. We do not address our uncle as 'uncle'. It depends on that uncle's position. Eg. 'ah kiu' means elder or younger brother of your mother while 'ah kin' refers to his wife. 'biao ge' and 'biao jie' are terms used to refer to male and female cousins. 'e e' means the sister of your mother while 'e zan' refers to her husband.

Terms like these always show solidarity between the relatives. If we were to address a person as 'uncle ABC' or 'auntie ABC' in Foochow society, they will not be happy.

6. What about 'monyet' in one of your entries?
I always use 'monyet' when I am talking about a naughty kid. It becomes a habit now.

7. Do you enjoy blogging about politics or religions? Do you code-switch if you are blogging about these topics?
I do not enjoy blogging about politics or religions but I think I cannot escape from discussing about these topics, right? These are sensitive issues in a multiracial society like our country, so, I always try my best not to code-switch because I do not want to change the context and also be penalized for switching into wrong language.

You're welcome!

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APPENDIX M

E-mail exchanged with Audrey

Open-Ended Questionnaire

Definition of Terms

Code-switching – a phenomenon where two languages or dialects are used within one single conversation to create meaningful utterances.

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1.   How often do you use English in your everyday life?

2.   On the scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your proficiency in English?

3.   When do you think was the time line that blogging became active among Malaysians?

4.   What is your opinion towards the use of code-switching in blogs?

5.   Do you code-switch between two or more languages or dialects in one topic whereas in another topic, you tend to use just one language only? Please specify the reason(s).

6.   Would you emphasis on the use of only English Language in blogs without incorporating the use of other languages or dialects?

7.   What do you think are the reasons that influence you or other bloggers to code-switching in their blog entries?

8.   Will you encourage the use of code-switching in blogs in future? Why?

** Follow-up questions asked depend on the patterns and styles of code-switching found in the entries of the selected bloggers.

Questionnaire Completed by Audrey

1.   **How often do you use English in your everyday life?**

Everyday.

2.   **On the scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your proficiency in English?**

9.

3.   **When do you think was the time line that blogging became active among the people of Malaysia?**

From 2005 onwards, but that's a guess.

4.   **What is your opinion towards the use of code-switching in blogs?**

Code-switching is good to get messages across especially in a country like Malaysia where certain words or phrases do not exist in English Language; hence, other languages should be used. I am good with code-switching in blogs.

5.   **Do you code-switch between two or more languages in one topic whereas in another topic, you tend to use just one language or dialect only? Please specify the reason(s).**

Yes, I guess. Sometimes, it is difficult to specify which language I had code-switched into earlier because I am not aware of it. It depends on the topics on the entries on which language I would code-switch into if I am aware of the switch.

6. **Would you emphasis on the use of only English Language in blogs without incorporating the use of other languages or dialects?**

It depends on an individual's preferences on which languages or dialects he or she wants to use. So, I do not emphasize that a blog should content only English Language because in Malaysia, multilingualism is what that makes us unique.

7. **What do you think are the reasons that influence you or other bloggers to code-switch in their blog entries?**

My language backgrounds? I think most of the times in a situation where multilingualism is involved, it pretty much depends on the languages or dialects a blogger know and comfortable with.

8. **Will you encourage the use of code-switching in blogs in future? Why?**

Yes, I think it could be because that's how we speak informally in real life. Blogging is a very informal form of self-expression, so it is only natural that people incorporate different languages or dialects into their writings.

Follow Up Questions

1. **There are not a lot of Malaysian bloggers especially of the younger generation who blog about political and religious issues. If you do blog about these issues, will you code-switch, why?**

I try not to blog about these issues because we all know that in Malaysia, these issues should not be debated openly as they are race-sensitive. If I really have to blog about it, I will try not to code-switch to avoid misinterpretations.

2.   **I notice throughout August 2010, you did not blog and code-switch much when you wrote about your family. Are there are reasons and why?**

I like to talk about my family but then again, I don't think there are a lot of code-switching going on within the family because I use English with my parents.

3.   **I noticed the use of certain words like 'puasa,' 'ramadhan,' 'layan,' 'pengsan' and others in your entries. Why did you choose to use those words in another language instead of English?**

I think I am used to using those words. I always tell ohers, 'he doesn't layan me lor,' 'I have no time to layan them' and stuffs like that. English word for 'layan'? I don't think the context would be right if I were to use English. Besides, this is Malaysia wtf.

Questionnaire Completed by Cindy

1.   **How often do you use English in your everyday life?**
90%.

2.   **On the scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your proficiency in English?**
8.

3.   **When do you think was the time line that blogging became active among the people of Malaysia?**
When Kenny Sia started? I don't know when that was.

4.   **What is your opinion towards the use of code-switching in blogs?**
It might seem bad initially but you have got to admit that code-switching actually helps in communication.

5.   **Do you code-switch between two or more languages in one topic whereas in another topic, you tend to use just one language or dialect only? Please specify the reason(s).**
Yes and I do use a lot of languages in a single entry very often because I am proud to be a Malaysian who knows different languages.

6.   **Would you emphasis on the use of only English Language in blogs without incorporating the use of other languages or dialects?**
There is no restriction that only English Language should be used in blogs, so, bloggers are encouraged to use more than one language or dialects to make their blogs interesting.

7. **What do you think are the reasons that influence you or other bloggers to code-switch in their blog entries?**

My choice of language or dialect used solely depends on what topics I am writing about as well as what situations I am in at the time of writing. At other times, if I am comfortable with one particular language, I tend to use it quite often.

8. **Will you encourage the use of code-switching in blogs in future? Why?**

Yes because this is Malaysia and we know a lot of languages!

Follow Up Questions

1. **There are not a lot of Malaysian bloggers especially of the younger generation who blog about political and religious issues. If you do blog about these issues, will you code-switch, why?**

I just don't blog about these issues because I think they do not appeal to me and I don't know much about them.

2. **I notice throughout August 2010, you did not blog and code-switch much when you wrote about your family. Are there are reasons and why?**

My blog is about my life. Although family is part of my life, I feel the need to keep certain things in privacy.

3. **There is a Malay idiom, "ingatlah orang yang tersayang," in one of your entries about road safety campaign. Is there any reason for the code-switch?**

Remember when we were younger; there was this TV advertisement on road safety campaign? The slogan of the campaign was, 'Pandulah dengan cermat, ingatlah orang yang tersayang.' I guess you could say I code-switched because I was influenced by that.

Questionnaire Completed by Cynthia

1. **How often do you use English in your everyday life?**

   I use it daily at work. As I am not very well versed with Chinese dialects, English is my main medium of communication unless I stumble across people who cannot converse in English

2. **On the scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your proficiency in English?**

   I would rate it at 8.

3. **When do you think was the time line that blogging became active among the people of Malaysia?**

   I am not very sure, as I was not exposed to the world of blogging before 2007. I only knew about the existence of blogs after the Friendster phenomenon, where people start sharing info on where do they write about the story of their life or passion. But I would assume from 2009 onwards, more people are attempting to have a blog of their own after seeing the success of some prominent bloggers.

4. **What is your opinion towards the use of code-switching in blogs?**

   I think code-switching gives a very personal touch to the content of the write up. But code switching could also be derived from our culture itself, since most of us Malaysian are well versed in a few medium / language and we actually code switch in our daily conversation. It gives more expression to the sentences perhaps, as in an actual dialogue.

5.   **Do you code-switch between two or more languages in one topic whereas in another topic, you tend to use just one language or dialect only? Please specify the reason(s).**

In general, I notice code-switching occurs mainly when a writer wish to express something thought-provoking in a casual manner, as if talking to an imaginary friend. I code-switch too under such condition. For example, when I see some news content that I can relate to and do have some opinion of my own on how things should be or should not be and I would like to express out casually. But at the time of expressing, I do not have a friend around. Hence my writing will be very casual based, as if in a conversation to a friend. My code-switching situation often happens only in post that contains anger, humor and casual write up. I do not code-switch in contents that provides direct information, serious issues that I wish to express and contents that I wish readers of different continents (who do not read Malay language) would understand.

6.   **Would you emphasis on the use of only English Language in blogs without incorporating the use of other languages or dialects?**

Not necessary. Bloggers can choose to code-switch or not, but it is very important that a blogger (who will have their content out to the public) to write in proper term, language or grammar. I may not have the best of grammar, but I always believe that it is only responsible for bloggers / writers to reduce the usage of slang such as 'geddit,' 'liddat'. These are viral habits that regular readers tend to follow. And for the fact that most of the blog readers nowadays are very much consisting of the younger crowd who easily get influenced with the style of writing, the habit carries when they are at school or college and we clearly know these type of words do not really exist when writing essays! I also do not condone very badly written Malay language in the shortest form:

"mcm maner nie? Klu nak pi, jom cite skit."

To code-switch is already a mash up of language, but to write in the worst of 'creative interpretation' is an insult to the person who has learnt the

language, albeit the language may differ from one to another. In my case, I am quoting Malay language as I only code-switch between English and Malay. At all time, I try my best to minimize the wrong usage of language, as I believe these are truly an insult to whatever language it is. Though, at times, in daily conversation I do use these, merely for the sake of mutual conversation.

7. **What do you think are the reasons that influence you or other bloggers to code-switch in their blog entries?**

Generally, to be able to code-switch, you must have a strong affinity to the language that you are using. In my case, it is rather impossible for me to use the English-Chinese medium as I am not well versed at all with the Chinese language. I enjoy the usage of Bahasa, perhaps because I am good in it and I know for certain reason, I can write well in it. But I cannot be writing in Bahasa forever, because I have to take into consideration that not all will understand.

I think I can see the trend too with bloggers such as Cheeserland.com who code switch between English and her Japanese, seeing that she loves the Japanese culture. But it would not be realistic for her to write in Japanese for all blog post because eventually people who do not understand it and have difficulty to understand it even after translating it from Google, will not visit the site anymore. Simply because they cannot understand the content!

If inserting 2 words of a different language into a 15 words sentences just because the writer or blogger cannot find the correct word in the same intended language, for example, "I have no idea why are the girls so 'miang' or 'hiao,' but I think it is because they have no boyfriend." – is considered code-switching, then perhaps that is also another reason why some bloggers code-switch.

8. **Will you encourage the use of code-switching in blogs in future? Why?**

Depending on the purpose and the contents of the blogs, I think. It will be utterly strange to see a minister blogs the following sentence in Malay when it is originally in English, "Keadaan yang huru-hara di parlimen hari ini semuanya adalah disebabkan perangai kebudak-budakan pihak pembangkang." I cannot believe it! It loses formality in this case, hence definitely not encouraged.

But I supposed if you are a lifestyle blogger, then code-switching is fine. If you are a commercial blogger, code-switching in a strategic manner, depending on your intended readers' demographic, I suppose. But if you are simply writing or blogging for your own understanding and do not intend the use the blogging context as a platform to improve your writing skills or do not see the need to improve any sort of skills at all, then it is up to the writer.

This is an example of bloggers that could have code-switch or use direct translation from Chinese to English for his post, which I find difficult to understand: http://www.lonelyreload.com/

Follow Up Questions

1. **There are not a lot of Malaysian bloggers especially of the younger generation who blog about political and religious issues. If you do blog about these issues, will you code-switch, why?**

Maybe they are not interested in these issues. I always try to avoid discussing about these issues openly because blog is an open public journal, hence, if sometimes goes wrong with your code-switches, you may end up being charged.

2. **I notice throughout August 2010, you did not blog and code-switch much when you wrote about your family. Are there are reasons and why?**

Actually I do blog about my family but most probably I did not do so in August 2010, I don't know why but well… there is nothing much to code-switch about within the family actually.

3. **I noticed the use of certain words like 'puasa,' 'ramadhan,' 'layan,' 'pengsan' and others in your entries. Why did you choose to use those words in another language instead of English?**

I was just being me, I guess – this is Malaysia and we have our own cultural values so, being able to communicate in more than one language and dialects is unique.

Questionnaire Completed by Nicole

1.   **How often do you use English in your everyday life?**

Everyday

2.   **On the scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your proficiency in English?**

8.

3.   **When do you think was the time line that blogging became active among the people of Malaysia?**

I guess blogging has always been active with people who blog. I came to know about the existence of blog as early as 2001. But if you're talking about when blogging has become mainstream; then I guess it is now. And it is still going on. And it has been going on since the first online celebrity in Malaysia became known to public (people off the internet).

4.   **What is your opinion towards the use of code-switching in blogs?**

It's a freedom of speech. Everyone is entitled to express he or herself in the language they're comfortable in. Take English for example; English language itself varies in every country across the globe, even within the UK (Scottish, Northern English, Southern English, Welsh, Irish English). Language has evolved beyond a set of specific rules and slangs and grammars, it has morphed and combined into the culture where it nurtures and cultivates. There is no wrong in Singlish and Manglish, grammatically yes, but not in the existence of the language itself; it's just like how the Americans would say 'chips' when appropriately it should be called 'crisps' in the native English. And 'pancakes' as 'flapjacks'.

How a language is presented and spoken is partially dependent, among other reasons, on the culture and evolvement, through history, of a nation/society/social circle, etc.

i.e. A slang of a language can even be created within a group as small as you and me.

5. **Do you code-switch between two or more languages in one topic whereas in another topic, you tend to use just one language or dialect only? Please specify the reason(s).**

Yes. Rarely, but yes. The reason I keep it to one language mainly because I like to keep it simple, one reason is because of my readers are mostly international so English would be very much preferred. And since I speak and write both, I would write in the language which most of my readers could read in.

6. **Would you emphasis on the use of only English Language in blogs without incorporating the use of other languages or dialects?**

No, I would not.

7. **What do you think are the reasons that influence you or other bloggers to code-switch in their blog entries?**

Embracing one's culture. Expressing in languages one can speak, be it two or three. It's an expression of freedom in speech.

8. **Will you encourage the use of code-switching in blogs in future? Why?**

The question is: Why not?

Follow Up Questions

1.   **There are not a lot of Malaysian bloggers especially of the younger generation who blog about political and religious issues. If you do blog about these issues, will you code-switch, why?**

I don't really like to touch issues on religions and politics since this is Malaysia – multiracial, multilingual and multi-religion, so, it's best not to discuss about it.

2.   **I notice throughout August 2010, you did not blog and code-switch much when you wrote about your family. Are there are reasons and why?**

No reason really.

3.   **I noticed the use of certain words like 'puasa,' 'ramadhan,' 'layan,' 'pengsan' in your entries. Why did you choose to use those words in another language instead of English?**

Well first of all, Ramadan is a proper word used in English to describe the Muslim month of fasting. Would you go to Thailand and try to change the word 'Songkran' into English, even though it means Thai New Year, it eliminates the origin of the noun in its native language. Same goes with 'puasa', and in some ways 'layan.'

Can you find a replacement of an English word that can deliver how the word 'layan' can?

People who are bi-lingual or tri-lingual often finds lots of words in a certain language that are irreplaceable in any other language they speak, or in any language at all; despite the words having the same meanings in both languages: 'faint' and 'pengsan.'

Questionnaire Completed by April

1. **How often do you use English in your everyday life?**
    It depends.

2. **On the scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your proficiency in English?**
    8.5.

3. **When do you think was the time line that blogging became active among the people of Malaysia?**
    Since 2007 probably. I am not sure.

4. **What is your opinion towards the use of code-switching in blogs?**
    It makes that particular entry interesting and lively.

5. **Do you code-switch between two or more languages in one topic whereas in another topic, you tend to use just one language or dialect only? Please specify the reason(s).**
    Yes. Some people might not be comfortable with English only and by using other languages and dialects; I am able to connect myself to my readers.

6. **Would you emphasis on the use of only English Language in blogs without incorporating the use of other languages or dialects?**
    No because I strongly believe every language or dialect serves a purpose.

7.   **What do you think are the reasons that influence you or other bloggers to code-switch in their blog entries?**

Code-switch can sometimes can explain and elaborate more than just sticking to the use of one language.

8.   **Will you encourage the use of code-switching in blogs in future? Why?**

Yes because again, we are attracted to read funny, humourous and interesting blogs.

Follow Up Questions

1.   **There are not a lot of Malaysian bloggers especially of the younger generation who blog about political and religious issues. If you do blog about these issues, will you code-switch, why?**

Young people these days do not blog or even discuss about politics and religions. My children can be the best examples. Even if I do code-switch in my entries, still, I try to keep it minimal to avoid unwanted attention. I personally think it is okay for us to discuss about these political or religious issues sometimes because we are just stating our point of views.

2.   **I noticed in a number of your entries where work and education is blogged, there were bound to be code-switches, why?**

I am a teacher and when you are working or teaching, you cannot run away from topics about education. Therefore, it is difficult for me to distinguish which topic is about education and which topic is about work.

3. **I noticed the use of certain words like 'puasa,' 'ramadhan,' 'layan,' 'pengsan' in your entries. Why did you choose to use those words in another language instead of English?**

Bringing these words together in blogs can make that article more attractive towards Malaysian friends.

Questionnaire Completed by Vivian

1.   **How often do you use English in your everyday life?**

Everyday, because I teach English in school.

2.   **On the scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your proficiency in English?**

9.

3.   **When do you think was the time line that blogging became active among the people of Malaysia?**

2006 or maybe earlier than that.

4.   **What is your opinion towards the use of code-switching in blogs?**

Most of the translations in the main language are not available, so, code-switching are used.

5.   **Do you code-switch between two or more languages in one topic whereas in another topic, you tend to use just one language or dialect only? Please specify the reason(s).**

You have to rely on code-switching if you are not really proficient in the main language being used in that particular blog you are reading. So, a mixture of English, Mandarin and Malay is the commonest way to resolve this problem.

6. **Would you emphasis on the use of only English Language in blogs without incorporating the use of other languages or dialects?**

I would definitely not do so because code-switching in Malaysia is unique as we have a lot of languages being used. It is a good thing everyone can communicate using so many different languages at one time.

7. **What do you think are the reasons that influence you or other bloggers to code-switch in their blog entries?**

It could be that readers or even myself that are not familiar with the language used hence, if code-switching is able to help, yes, I will use it. At the same time, it certainly depends on your linguistic backgrounds – if you are exposed to a lot of languages or dialects since you are younger, you are more prone to code-switch, like me.

8. **Will you encourage the use of code-switching in blogs in future? Why?**

I will not encourage or discourage because the entries in whichever languages or dialects are meant for those who understand it and if one really interested in knowing the contents, they can easily translate it using the available translator in internet.

Follow Up Questions

1. **There are not a lot of Malaysian bloggers especially of the younger generation who blog about political and religious issues. If you do blog about these issues, will you code-switch, why?**

No, because only from blogging about these issues in English, everyone from every corner of the world will know the current issues globally.

2. **I notice throughout August 2010, you mentioned a lot about your family. In those entries, there are code-switching as well, especially when it comes to the use of kinship terms. Why?**

   I am comfortable discussing about my family. I used Foochow when I blogged about my relatives because in English, there is no equivalent words that can be used to refer to 'the wife of mother's brother,' but in Foochow, we call her, 'ah kin.' It actually gives me more sense of solidarity if I code-switch when I blog about my family.

3. **I noticed in a number of your entries where work and education is blogged, there were bound to be code-switches, why?**

   Most probably the reason is that since I am a teacher, I blog and code-switch about these issues quite often. When I do that, I don't normally differentiate which entry belongs to which category. I will just put them together since they are interrelated.

4. **Do you notice it when you code-switching from English to another language?**

   Sometimes, I code-switch when I feel like something needs to be expressed but there are times when I don't notice I've code-switched!