

The Use of Code-Switching by Public Figures

Language is the ability to communicate and it's reflected in everything that we do.

Throughout time, languages go through some dramatic changes and variations. Since the 1940s language has experienced a phenomenon called code-switching or code-mixing (Cooper 2015).

The Oxford dictionary defines code-switching as "The practice of alternating between two or more languages or varieties of language in conversation". This linguistic event is most common among multilingual communities. In *Five Reasons Why People Code-Switch*, Matt Thomson

explains that people code-switch because they want to fit in a certain group or situation, they want to get something, they want to say something in secret, they want to express a specific idea and sometimes they code-switch without even realizing it or intended to do it. Through this

paper, I will examine examples of code-switching in public figures such as Jennifer Lopez and Salma Hayek. I will emphasize this investigation on their social media posts, song lyrics, and interviews. In addition, I will analyze how these public figures use code-switching to their advantage.

Jennifer Lopez, an actress, singer and fashion designer, whose parents are Puerto Rican, didn't speak fluent Spanish until the past few years when she began to demonstrate a huge appreciation to the Spanish language. She starts visiting Spanish TV shows, including iconic Spanish sayings in her social media posts and even releasing a whole album in Spanish. Jennifer Lopez exhibits many examples of codeswitching in her social media. For instance, she posted a picture with her boyfriend and captioned it "With Mi Macho" which translates to "With My

In your examples, J.Lo & Salma Hayek code-switch in texting, so this definition is not useful.

do not think code-switching started in the 40s. it is as old as bilingualism in the world

In this paper

examine

exemplify their code-switching practices through looking at

Good job providing an overview

famous/well-known