

CODE-SWITCHING: EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIUM

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The education system in the Philippines is undeniably great; it lays a major emphasis on the students and the knowledge they should gain. Now, the Bilingual Education Policy requires that some topics be taught in English and others in Filipino. Several teachers have found that pupils struggle while teachers are teaching a subject in English, thus they have devised inventive alternatives such as code-switching.

The process of swapping back and forth between two or more languages is known as code-switching. This generosity would be especially helpful to the Philippines, which has a sizable multilingual population. According to Karizza P. Bravo Sotelo's article, "Exploring the Tagalog-English Code-Switching Types Used for Mathematics Classroom Instruction" code-switching enables math educators to construct their courses. Because math is frequently taught in English, it may be difficult for students who have trouble with the language to understand mathematical concepts (Bravo-Sotelo, 2020).

There are other benefits to code-switching. First and foremost, the children may express themselves more freely and vividly. Because certain terms are difficult to translate, it may be beneficial to borrow words that best explain the concept you desire to employ. Since teaching English, Mathematics, and Science is already challenging, students will acquire the topics more slowly if they are taught in pure English rather than Filipino. As a result, teachers regularly change the codes, in our case, in Filipino. (DepEd Philippines, 2016)

In previous years, we were constantly told that we should use an English-only policy to practice our English, but a study titled " Can Code Switching Enhance Learners'

Academic Achievement?" found that codeswitching assisted students in improving the quality of their responses in oral recitation, completely comprehending the material being taught, encouraging them to participate in class discussions, and helping them to improve their English (Simasiku, Kasanda, & Smit, 2015).

English and Filipino are widely used jointly in the Philippines. Code-switching, especially with Taglish, greatly facilitates the conveyance of our thoughts. While I use the Filipino language regularly, adding English to my phrases makes them more sophisticated. In my perspective, code-switching does not deprive us of the opportunity to study English; rather, it assists us in attaining incredible skills in our second language.

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