



A BILINGUAL IN MARSEILLE:

ADOLESCENT SPEECH AND REGIONAL ASPECTS

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Linguistic Profiles

SPEAKER A:

- Male, 17 years old.
- Bilingual French and English
- Born in suburbs of Paris

SPEAKER B:

- Male 17 years old.
- Bilingual in French and Spanish
- Born in Marseille

SPEAKER C:

- Male 17 years old.
- French
- Born in Marseille

SPEAKER D:

- Female 17 years old.
- French
- Born in Marseille

SPEAKER E:

- Male 47 years old.
- French
- Born in suburbs of Paris.

SPEAKER Q (INTERVIEWER):

- Female 22 years old.
- Bilingual in French and English
- Born in Lyon.

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Methodology

Interview 1: Speakers A, B and C

Interview 2: Speakers A and D

Interview 3: Speakers A and E

Chapters

1. DISCOURSE MARKERS

2. SLANG

3. CODE-SWITCHING

4. INTER-SPEAKER ANALYSIS

DISCOURSE MARKERS

Discourse Markers

(eh) ben [(eɪ) bɛ̃]

bah [baː]

hein [ɛ̃]

1. (eh) ben - [(eɪ) bɛ̃]

ben can be translated as 'well' in English.

two functions:

(a) marking inaccuracy

(b) marking the obvious

(Hansen, 1995)

1. (eh) ben - [(eɪ) bɛ̃]

7:10:

Q: Et vous pensez quoi des politiques de Marseille? C'est quoi la plus mauvaise chose à Marseille?

Q: And what do you think about the politics in Marseille? What's the worst thing in Marseille?

7:20:

D: La plus mauvaise chose qu'il y a à Marseille ? Il y a beaucoup de choses. **Ben**, Gaudin il est là depuis vingt ans et il fait rien.

*D: The worst thing in Marseille? There are a lot of things. **Well**, Gaudin has been there for twenty years and does nothing.*

1. (eh) ben - [(eɪ) bɛ̃]

eh ben is an intensified variant of *ben*

(1)

E: Alors, pourquoi pensez-vous que Zidane est si aimé en France?

E: So, why do you think that Zidane is so loved in France?

A: **Eh ben**, en fait, il nous a fait gagner la coupe du monde!

A: Well, actually, he made us win the world cup!

2. Bah - [ba:]

bah and ben are both variants of bon 'good'.

- the variations occur depending on the function and the context.
- is there a dialectal difference?

Speaker D uses *bah* frequently.

(2)

D: **Bah**, j'suis en cours de correspondance, je ne suis pas déscolarisée.

D: *Well, I take correspondence courses, I am not out of education.*

3. Hein - [ɛ̃]

end of turn interjection and has "request qualities" (Drescher, 1999:239).
can be translated as 'right' in English.

(3)

A: C'est assez choquant **hein!** J'sais pas on est arrivé au moment, tu sais quand ...
quand il y a le bébé sur le plafond...

*A: It's quite shocking **right!** I don't know we got to the bit, you know when... when there's
the baby is on the ceiling.*

Slang: Kiffer, Vite Fait, Cuisse and Sale

1. Kiff [kif]

(4)

A: En faite, il y avait quelqu'un qui savait que nous deux on s'aimait en fait. Bah, on se **kiffait**.

A: In fact, there was someone who knew that loved each other in fact. Well, we liked each other.

2. **Vite fait, bien fait [vit fε, bjɛ̃ fε]**

(5)

Toutes les semaines, j'avais droit à ma petite pipe, **vite fait bien fait.**

Every week, I was allowed my little pipe, nice and quick.

(Patrick, 1987)

2. Vite fait, bien fait [vit fε, bjɛ̃ fε]

(6)

C: Moi je parle Francais, **vite fait** Anglais, et Espagnol mais niveau lycée, et ma famille, c'est pareil.

*C: I speak French, **somewhat** English, and Spanish at high school level, and my family is the same.*

C: I speak French, **quickly (done) English and Spanish at high school level, and my family is the same.*

2. Vite fait, bien fait [vit fε, bjɛ̃ fε]

(7)

A: Quoi, que des films?

B: Ouais je regarde des films vite fait.

A: What, only films?

B: Yeah I only watch films, somewhat.

**B: Yeah I only watch films quickly*

3. Sale [sal]

(8)

Ça n'est pas **sale**!

It's bloody good!

(Lovatt and Hérail, 2005:471)

3. Sale [sal]

(9)

B: Ouais je regarde des films vite fait.

A: Jsais pas des classiques un peu. Genre, le parin, scarface... des trucs **sales**.

B: Yeah, I somewhat watch films.

A: I don't know a bit of the classics. Like, the godfather, scarface... **sick** stuff.

*A: I don't know a bit of the classics. Like, the godfather, scarface... **bad** stuff.

4. Cuisse [kɥis]

(10)

Dans un gros village comme celui-là, il y a toujours quelque chose à chercher. Certainement pas d'armes, non. Peut-être un peu d'argent. Surtout de la **cuisse**.

*In a big village like this, there is always something to look for. Certainly no weapons, no. Maybe a little money. Especially **women**.*

(Spaggiari, 1977)

4. Cuisse [kyis]

(11)

Q: Oui, mais il faut quand même penser à ...

C: Le bac du lycée il es **cuisse**.

Q: Yes, but you also have to think about...

C: The school's baccalaureate, it's **rubbish**.

*C: The school's baccalaureate, it's a **thigh**.

*C: The school's baccalaureate, it's a **woman**.

Code-Switching

Intersentential code switching

(12)

Niye oraya gönderiyorlar? **Arm man.**

*Why are the sending him there? **the poor man.***

(Backus, 1992:91)

Intrasententialcode switching

(13)

Abelardo tiene los **movie tickets**.

Abelardo has the movie tickets.

(Koban, 2013:1175)

Matrix Language Frame Model

(14)

Watoto wa-me-enda fcu-swim

Children have gone to swim

(Mwandinje, 2004:1)

(15)

My kalamu is lost.

My pen is lost

(Mwandinje, 2004:1)

1. 'Year 7'

(16)

A: On faisant peur aux petits dans les couloirs.

B: A quel eh?

A: William Ellis

B: A William Ellis?

A: Ils étaient en quoi, **year seven**, ils faisant un mètre quarante et ils avait les gros sacs à dos.

A: We would scare the little ones in the corridors.

B: At which eh?

A: William Ellis

B: At William Ellis?

*A: They were in what, **year seven**, they were one metre forty and they had big backpacks.*

2. 'Homeschooling'

(17)

Q: Donc t'as des cours à la maison ?

D: Oui j'ai des cours à la maison, c'est ça.

Q: Hein ! Et ça marche comment alors?

A: C'est comme du **homeschooling**.

Q: *So you have classes at home?*

D: *Yes, exactly, I have classes at home.*

Q: *What! So how does it work?*

A: *It's like **homeschooling**.*

Intraspeaker Analysis of Speaker A: Slang and Genre

CAT

Communication accommodation theory (CAT) is an intraspeaker analysis as it is concerned with one speaker and how their style changes depending on the setting they are in.

1. No use of slang with speaker E

2. Augmented use of genre [ʒɑ̃ʀ] with friends

It has been noted that the discourse marker genre is used in “informal conversations of French teenagers” (Moder and Martinovic, 2004:129)

Equivalent to 'like' in English

(18)

A: **Genre** ca dépend genre tout le nord ç'est pauvre et tout le sud ç'est bien.

A: *Like*, it depends, like all the north is poor and all the south is good.

LIMITATIONS

CONCLUSION

Further Questions

1. If bah and ben can both be said by the same speaker and therefore, not a regional variation of each other, why is bah more commonly used by the Marseille speakers? Could it also be a new adolescent term?
2. Is the term vite fait used by other speakers across France?
3. How common is cuisse and sale as slang terms among other speakers and are there other variations of meanings than those in the data?
4. Is speaker A using accommodation when using the discourse marker genre with his friends?
5. Are there other instances when speaker A uses code switching in his speech, and if so, who are the other people in those instances?

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

J'espère que vous avez tous kiffé!

