

ABSTRACT

Mahrita. "Language Choice Between Mandarin and Hokkian Used By Chinese Vendors in Pasar Atom Shopping Centre Surabaya (A Sociolinguistic Approach)" A thesis submitted as partial fulfilment of the requirements for the sarjana degree of the English Department Faculty of Letters Airlangga University, 2005.

This study is intended to analyse language choice used among Chinese vendors in Pasar Atom Surabaya. The writer takes this title because as the multilingual community, Chinese vendors in Surabaya can speak some languages such as Indonesian, local language, Mandarin and one of regional dialect of Chinese. When they interact with their own community, Chinese vendors tend to use Mandarin or one of the regional dialects of Chinese such as Hokkian. It seems that the condition of speech community plays an important role in determining what language the Chinese vendors use to communicate with other people especially with their own Chinese community. Moreover, some factors should be considered when choosing a language for a speech context.

In this case, this study tries to identify the situations of the *language choice* in which Chinese vendors usually use *Mandarin* and *Hokkian* with their interlocutors. Besides, the writer attempts to find out the actual reasons for choosing a certain language.

In order to collect the data, the writer makes some interviews with the participants who sell in Pasar Atom Surabaya. Ten Chinese vendors are taken as the participants. The descriptive qualitative method is used to conduct this research. To get a complete set of data, she also makes observation by recording the conversation which occur between the participant and the interlocutor.

The result of this study reveals that at certain speech context, most of the participants have the same habit in using Mandarin. The factors such as the topic of conversation, interlocutors, and setting seem to be important to be considered in choosing the language used. However, each person has the reasons for it as well.

Keywords: language choice, Mandarin, and Hokkian.