



Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla

Facultad de Lenguas

**SPANGLISH, NOT SPANISH OR ENGLISH:
ANALYSIS OF EVERYDAY TEXTS IN SOCIAL
NETWORKS**

**A Thesis Submitted to the School of Languages for
the Degree of Licenciatura en la Enseñanza del
Inglés**

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EVERYDAY TEXTS IN SOCIAL NETWORKS

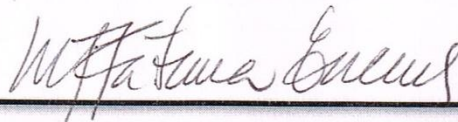
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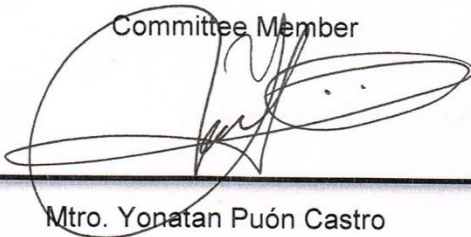
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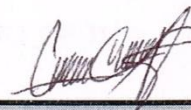
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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to identify the characteristics in the use of Spanglish (Stavans, 2002) through Social Networks among Hispanos in the United States and also determine reasons for this use.

Firstly, a variety of texts written in Spanglish were analyzed using categories that emerged from the data. In a second stage, interviews were used to interview people who wrote the previous texts in order to explore their opinions about the use of Spanglish. At the end of the process the information was evaluated. The results indicated that under certain circumstances people tend to write in Spanglish. Findings also indicated that identity is essential when communicating. Participants gave their points of view and expressed their feelings about changing from Spanish to English or vice versa at the moment of speaking. These perceptions allowed me to explore in depth the use of each language taking into account identity and factors that are presented in everyday life.

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Overview

This study's main purpose was to explore how Spanglish is used in social networks in everyday communication. The use of social networks has increased significantly and the use of language in these settings has been affected because people write more like they speak and because of the immediateness in communication. Besides, there are no explicit rules or people who demand you to write correctly. Basically, the objective in the use of the technology is to communicate through social networks without any restriction, even in language.

In the United States, English is the language for communication but Spanish is the second language according to the number of people who speak it. So, what happens with communication between American people who use both languages simultaneously in social networks?

Spanglish is an important phenomenon placed mainly in the United States as a result of a mixture between two of the most important languages around the world. There are different opinions about this issue; on the one hand, some people avoid its use affirming that it is not proper to speak or write in Spanglish. As Gonzalez states (1997) "The sad reality is that Spanglish is primarily the language of poor Hispanics, many barely literate in either language. They incorporate English words and constructions into their daily speech because the lack of vocabulary and education in Spanish to adapt to the changing culture around them." And on the other, there are people who think it is a normal fact when Hispanic and Anglo persons live together. For example Stavans (2003) affirms "it is a very creative jazzy way of being Latino in the U. S. today". Although there are different interpretations, this phenomenon reflects the immersion of a person in both languages.

1.1 Project rationale

The present research came from experiences that Mexican people face when they have been living in the USA for many years and speak their mother tongue Spanish and their second language English. Then, when Hispanics have children, who were born in the United States, they face the process of learning two languages almost at the same time because Spanish is their parents' mother tongue and English is the language that surrounded them.

Furthermore, when Mexicans who live in the USA want to keep in touch with their family in their native country they use internet. Young people communicate more through social networks than adults.

The present study focused on young people who were born in the USA but their parents are Mexicans and they have learnt Spanish and English simultaneously. Virtual texts that people use for everyday communication were analyzed. Those texts were taken from social networks such as "Facebook" and "Twitter" where the communication comes more spontaneously.

1.2 Significance of the topic

It is by now well established that social networks are the biggest alternative to chat, share ideas and make new friends. Communication is a vital process for all those purposes and language has an important role. In the case of people who speak Spanish as a mother tongue and English as a second language or vice versa they sometimes tend to mix both languages and use the well-known Spanglish. And if they are immersed in a context where people speak both languages, they use it at anytime, anywhere.

Thus, the use of more than one language is an interesting process to analyze as well as why people use it even in social networks where people who do not speak both languages can see it. There are thousands of people who live in this situation and it is important to know if they are aware of the use of Spanglish and their perceptions about it because they as speakers and even owners of their language could assimilate in one way and people who are just viewers or listeners could see it in another way.

So, this research attempted to contribute to find bilingual people's reasons to alternate English and Spanish, how often they use it as well as those who use Spanglish and what for.

1.3 Context of the research

Although Spanglish is a common situation that takes place frequently, there are not sufficient studies including its use in social networks. For example, some of the projects based on Spanglish are related to the phenomenon itself, its definition and everything that it involves. As Lipski mentions in his article "*Is Spanglish the third language of the South?: truth and fantasy about U.S. Spanish*", the study traces the origin and development of the "Spanglish" image and describes the many distinct phenomena that this term has included.

Researchers have studied Spanglish as a phenomenon with a linguistic perspective like Price in his article "*What is Spanglish? The phenomenon of code-switching and its impact among US Latinos*", focuses on the importance of code-switching as an important element of Spanglish that reflects a border culture.

There are also cultural variants where authors remark identity as an essential part of the Spanglish use. Authors such as Rothman and Rell mention that Spanglish is a synonym of

Identity and the role of identity is implicit to language through the one people conserve culture.

The areas related to the topic are the following: Linguistics firstly because of the use of words or phrases from both languages, English and Spanish; secondly Sociolinguistics in order to identify factors that allow participants to speak using these languages variants; identity as an amount of cultural factors that people present when they are in contact with other country completely different from the one in which they lived or knew. Furthermore, identity played an important role in the present research because it implies how the person considers himself and his language as a part of a community and how dense cultural aspects are.

Associated with the present research definitions of Spanglish were presented, how it happens, in which contexts it is presented and why it occurs. Also, interlanguage was a vital part of the area because it helped us to comprehend the process related to the acquisition of a different language from the native one. In addition, code-switching and code-mixing are processes where people tend to change from one language to another in a simple speech.

1.4 Location of the research

The appropriate place to work on this research is the internet world. As people know, almost everybody has access to use social networks through internet and spend considerable time on it. Social networks such as “Facebook” or “Twitter” are tools used by millions around the world and facilitate communication even when it is not face to face.

The only object that people need is a computer.

In addition, the United States has a significant number of Hispanics, most of them Mexicans. However, although people live in the USA there is no guarantee that they speak English and Spanish fluently but they try to use both languages.

But what happens with language when there are people who are not really worried about grammar or lexical aspects and use Spanglish? How do they feel using it? What do they think when they speak in Spanglish, not Spanish or English? Those are questions that will be answered through the whole process of this research.

1.5 Aims

The principle aim of this study was to explore, analyze and describe people's everyday texts written in Spanglish in order to integrate all this information for getting reasons and implications on its use.

To collect all this information it was necessary to look for texts written in Spanglish through social networks like Facebook or Twitter. Then, the information was categorized in order to analyze under which circumstances people use Spanglish.

Another aim to achieve was to understand why people speak and write like this, and the best form to do it is by using interviews. Interviews had an important role during this process because participants gave their opinions about their use of Spanglish.

1.6 Research Questions

The general objective was to analyze the use of Spanglish in Social Networks and in order to achieve the principal aim the following research questions were addressed:

RQ1: How is Spanglish used in Social Networks?

Based on this question the purpose was to establish the common characteristics. All the texts were analyzed and divided into categories created according to the intention of the message.

RQ2: What are Hispanic people's opinions about the use of Spanglish in Social Networks?

Through opinions it is possible to obtain more information that is not explicit in a written text. In case of the presented texts, readers could understand what it says literally but asking the writer allow people to explore in depth his perspectives and thoughts.

1.7 Chapter summary

Finally, the study of this research emerged because technology has increased during the last years and it is important to know how people interact through social networks because it is more common than face to face communication.

The use of technology is a significant revolution because many projects, studies and information are communicated through internet. Sometimes, it is not necessary to call or face someone; just a click makes the change.

In chapter two the theoretical framework is presented. Chapter number three presents the process that I followed to obtain the data and analyze it. Also, each process has its own results and they are shown in the next chapter. Finally, chapter number five has the general conclusion and necessary information for further research.

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Overview

This chapter discusses some aspects about the phenomenon of Spanglish; its definition, importance, causes and consequences as well as the compilation of circumstances and factors that are involved. First, this issue is presented in the second language acquisition process where participants use a different language from his mother tongue and when these participants use two languages alternatively it is called interlanguage.

Then, there are also two concepts called code–mixing and code–switching which describe forms where the two languages are used (Spanish and English). However, one of the important aspects on these events is the identity that a person manifests while he or she is speaking.

2.1 Spanglish, Spanish or English?

Spanish is one of the most important languages because of the number of speakers around the world. It is the official language in countries such as Mexico, Spain, Cuba, Honduras, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Colombia, Argentina, and Ecuador. But what role does Spanish have in the United States?

Although English is the official language in the United States, Spanish has increased its importance in this country every year because of migrants who go from Latin American countries. Causes such as political, social and economic factors mainly promote this migration to the Northern Country.

When Hispanics establish themselves in the United States they feel the necessity to learn English in order to communicate, ask for something, at work, at school and meet new

people. However, most of these immigrants move to the United States looking for a *better life* because work opportunities are not proper in their native country. Hence, immigrants are just worried for getting an acceptable job to help their family economically and they often have to learn English by themselves without teachers, schools or tutors giving as a result the phenomenon of Spanglish.

Stavans (2002) defines Spanglish as the verbal encounter of the Anglo and Hispano civilizations (p. 5). It is important to mention that Spanglish is not a language, as Stavans mentions; it is just the closeness of these two languages from different countries.

This closeness is not manifested just linguistically. In the particular case between Mexico and the United States, this closeness is geographical and states in the south including Texas, New Mexico and California are more susceptible to manifest this hybrid language.

Furthermore, this is a complex topic to describe for all the characteristics that it includes. For example, speakers of Spanglish often start speaking in Spanish and take some borrowings from English or vice versa depending on the context. It is clear that the environment takes an important aspect in the use of Spanglish because the speaker does not use it if the listener is not familiar or does not speak one of the two languages. So, Spanglish is used by speakers of Spanglish with Spanglish speakers but just in certain conditions.

According to this, Zentella (2005) stated “The inevitable contribution of English borrowing and frequent language alternation is sometimes labeled Spanglish, Tex-Mex, or Pocho and mistakenly considered a linguistic mishmash” (p.8). She mentions *inevitable contribution* because that is not something planned. Hispanics do not program themselves for speaking in Spanglish and it comes unconsciously in one part, but on the contrary they perfectly know under which circumstances they can speak Spanish, English or Spanglish.

2.2 Learning vs. Acquisition of a Second Language

During the first years of life, one of the most important steps is to learn to speak. Speaking a specific language is based on the parents' mother tongue. They are the teachers during this process of learning how to speak. So the first language that a person speaks is known as mother tongue or first language (L1).

In the case of the present research, Hispanics who go to the North Country speak Spanish as a mother tongue and their kids speak Spanish too. But, if their children are so young or rise in an English speaking country, they will have a second language.

Any other language learned after the mother tongue can be a second or a foreign language. There is a significant difference between *second* and *foreign* language. In a second language, learners are exposed to the different language outside the classroom. For example, students who are in Canada learning French are exposed to French not only inside the classroom. In contrast, foreign language is when the learning is just in the classroom and the environment is completely different to the new language, for example a student who learns Spanish in China.

As well as the differences mentioned above, *learning* and *acquisition* are two processes which are contrasted. Krashen (1995) stated that "Language acquisition is a subconscious process; language acquirers are not usually aware of the fact that they are acquiring language, but are only aware of the fact that they are using the language for communication" (p. 10) According to Krashen, Hispanics are acquiring a second language in this case English. This procedure occurs as a consequence of living in the United States, a country where English is the official language. Although they learned Spanish by parents' influence, they need to be English-speaking persons to maintain an acceptable communication at work and school.

On the other hand, Krashen (1995) established that “Learning refers to conscious knowledge of a second language knowing the rules, being aware of them, and being able to talk about them” (p. 10).

A Hispanic who learns English in their native country is not the same that a Hispanic who acquires English in an Anglo country. In the case of Spanglish speakers; they did not really learn both languages, they acquired them. For them it is easy to switch from one language to the other doing it automatically.

2.3 Between Spanish and English, Interlanguage

The process of acquiring a second language involves diverse factors. For example, the conditions are completely different when people start speaking their first language than the second one. Aspects like age, moving from one country to another or starting with the school life creates a specific environment and makes a different progression in some areas of learning a language.

Selinker (1972) used the term *interlanguage* referring to a “systematic knowledge of an L2, which is independent of both these learner’s L1 and the target language” (p.710). This means that this process is based on the comparison by the learner of a second language between items commonly used in his mother tongue and how these words, phrases or rules are adapted in the new language acquired. It happens because the learner has to face different processes at the same time. On the one hand, he is acquiring the second language and comparing usages between his target language and the second one. And on the other, he has to understand, adapt and use the second language, even when grammar aspects are completely different.

2.4 Code-switching and code-mixing

In this process of interlanguage, the use of code-switching and code-mixing are latent because these systems occurs when the learner of a new language is re-creating the language by his own and he tends to change or mix some words to make the speech more understandable for him.

Crystal (1987) says that switching between languages is when an individual may switch from one language to another and the sentences may alternate. In case of code-mixing both languages can be combined in order to perform a fluent speech and mixing words are possible.

The terms “code-mixing” and “code-switching” can be similar or even equal for some persons. These both phenomena can be isolated but they complement each other relatively because without code-switching there is no code-mixing and vice versa.

Some examples of this process are the following:

- *“Ok, quiero invitarte a un pari”*
- *¿Puedes parkear la troca?*

There are modifications at different levels. One of these variations is when people borrow words from their second language. Another is when they extend words from their mother tongue to use them in their second language. Also, other variation is when people express their ideas using grammatical aspects like complete phrases taken from their first or the second language.

Spanglish is a clear example of code-switching where two languages are combined in a simple conversation and reflects how ordinary Spanish and English are for the speaker.

2.5 Identity as a reason of Spanglish

Through language, people communicate their feelings, ideas and show points of view about any aspects of life. In this research, personal opinions about the use of the language are very important because it demonstrates how people are involved in this process and how important it is for them.

Gudykunst (2003) explains that personal identity refers to an individual's unique characteristic, irrespective of cultural or social group and social identity is defined as one's knowledge of membership in certain social groups and the social meanings attached to the group. These definitions refer to how a person identifies himself based on certain characteristics representative in their social group. This importance is because it can change the way of how people see themselves when they feel like part of a specific group. When a person identifies himself with a defined society, it is represented by the way he acts, thinks and even speaks.

Identity is how a person is attached to a community and in the case of Spanglish speakers there are two communities that are in contact with them: Mexican or American. As a consequence, people who speak Spanish and English simultaneously feel the necessity of having a Mexican and an American identity with them.

2.6 Chapter summary

To sum up, it is important to mention key words that appear during the whole process of the research. For example, Spanglish is a compound word that comes from the words Spanish and English. As it is known, these two are the most important spoken languages around the world because of the number of people who speak them.

Spanglish is known as a hybrid language or as Stavans (2002) mentioned it is just part of the encounter between the Anglo and Hispanic civilizations.

Spanglish is a phenomenon that takes place in the process of a Second Language Acquisition and a Spanglish speaker went through an acquisition process where most of the speakers are in an English speaking country and the environment provides all the conditions to get involved with the language. During the acquisition, people take words from one language to integrate them to the other and this mixture is known by researchers as code-switching.

Finally, one element that integrates all above mentioned is the role of identity. Language is related to identity because behind language there are other cultural elements that make it authentic. Identity plays a very important role with Spanglish speakers because they have actually two identities that cannot avoid and are presented in daily life while he or she is speaking Spanglish.

CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY

3.0 Overview

The purpose of this study was to explore the use of Spanglish through Social Networks, a phenomenon that takes place between bilingual people who learn Spanish at home and English at school. This chapter presents the methodology which includes the participants' characteristics, the two different instruments applied to collect the data as well as the procedure. Finally there is a brief description of the whole process and the obtained information.

3.1 Participants of the research

The participants were 8 people (2 male and 6 female) between 19 and 30 years old. They were chosen because of some texts that they wrote in their profile status in Social Networks such as Facebook and Twitter.

Their background was an important issue in this research because all these participants had characteristics in common. For example, 6 of them were born and raised in the United States, in South West States mainly California. The other one was born and lived all her life in Tijuana, Baja California and she was in a similar situation than the other participants.

Although the participants were born in the United States, their parents were Mexicans so they spoke at least two languages English and Spanish. They had the ability to switch from one language to another in a simple speech and they presented it through Social Networks in a written way.

3.2 Methodology of this research

The main purpose of this research was to analyze texts in Spanglish and participants' reasons to use it instead of writing just in one language. This helps researchers to interpret the origins of Spanglish, why people tend to use it and what they really express through it.

The setting was important because it was where all the processes were developed. All the data were obtained through Social Networks that are an important part of everyday communication because most people use internet in their daily routines.

The first step was to look for texts to analyze. These texts had to be written in Spanglish and they were notes, messages, letters, and profile status. An important observation about the texts was that participants wrote like they normally speak and code-switching was evident in all writings. Once texts were obtained, the authors were interviewed in order to obtain opinions about the use of Spanglish.

3.3 Data Collection

The data were classified according to the usage in the following categories; describing situations, expressions, wishes, feelings, congratulations and opinions.

In order to collect the data, I contacted my family through Social Networks. I had noticed that in their profile status on Facebook they wrote mostly in English and inserted some words in Spanish, but also phrases and combined expressions. Then, I asked participants to analyze their texts. As mentioned above, these texts had to be normal writings such as notes, letters, giving advice and profile status that were written on their Facebook and Twitter accounts.

All the texts were integrated in a table. Some persons had more than one text so there was a division between one participant and the other. Each participant had his own texts and the use of highlighted phrases was important to distinguish English from Spanish. Like a symbolical use, red color referred to Spanish and blue to English language. It also helped to notice which language was used more in the text. Alike, the number of words was significant in order to have a quantitative result, but the most important analysis was how both languages were used.

After separating texts into languages, the use of English and Spanish was analyzed individually. The kind of phrases participants used the most in English or Spanish was asked as well as what they really wanted to express through the use of Spanglish.

To get the data, I contacted participants for an interview. These interviews included questions about their background, languages that they spoke, their opinion about the use of Spanglish and I showed them their texts to get an opinion about what they wrote.

Interviews were applied to comprehend people's opinions about the use of Spanglish. Basically, the interviews were divided into 3 sections: age, place of birth and how long have been living there, in case they had moved to another city or country and parents' nationality to comprehend the kind of input they received in their early years.

The next section was related to language and its uses. First, which languages they spoke but we focused on English and Spanish mainly. It was important to know also how they learned them in order to understand if they learned or acquired the languages. To start with the important questions, I felt the necessity to ask if they knew the term *Spanglish* and what it referred to, how often they thought they used it and people who talked to them in Spanglish. After that, they gave an opinion about English, Spanish and Spanglish individually, how important each language was for them and why.

Finally, the last section was about their writings because in this part the interviewer showed participants the text or texts in Spanglish that they wrote and they had to give a personal opinion about it, what they noticed and if they liked it or not and why.

Finally, the data were classified and compared into categories mentioned before in order to obtain results. Results based on participants' opinions are presented in the next chapter.

3.4 Chapter summary

The Methodology was established according to the necessities of the project in order to answer the research questions mentioned above. Text analysis was an important resource because through comments, letters, and profile status participants expressed their ideas using Spanglish and categories emerged to find out under which circumstances people use it. This qualitative data answered the first research question of the project about how Spanglish is used through Social Networks.

In order to collect people's opinions about the use of Spanglish the use of interviews was necessary to get suitable information to answer the second research question. Therefore, the data were obtained and divided into the participants' background, opinions about Spanglish and their viewpoint about it. In the following chapter, the results are presented.

CHAPTER 4: FINDINGS

4.0 Overview

This chapter presents results obtained from the data analysis in order to answer the research questions of this project. Two fundamental goals were the center of this study, first to explore the use of Spanglish in Social Networks and why the participants used Spanglish. These answers showed participants' opinions about the use of Spanglish by Mexico-American people, a different point of view from researchers and teachers like Lipski (2004) who defines Spanglish as; "this grotesque creation not only contains numerous syntactic violations of code-switching, but also phonotactically unlikely combinations in either language..., and phonetic imitation of popular or uneducated Spanish... reinforce the notion that only uneducated people speak Spanglish" (p. 463).

RQ1: How is Spanglish used in Social Networks?

RQ2: What are Hispanic people's opinions about the use of Spanglish in Social Networks?

The results indicated important aspects in the use of Spanglish, situations where it is used and who tends to use it. On the other hand, people who use Spanglish frequently have a different perspective from people who do not use it. In the following sections, all this information is presented.

4.1 Interviews

Interviews were divided into three sections; personal information including name, place of birth and their parents nationality. The second section included what languages participants spoke, how they learned them, if they knew the term Spanglish and their opinions about it. In the last part, participants read their texts and gave an opinion about it and how important English and Spanish were for their lives. All the details of each participant are presented in the following paragraphs.

4.1.1 Participant N° 1 David

The first participant was David, a 20-years-old boy. He was actually a professional soccer player who played in Lobos BUAP, the soccer team from a University in Mexico. Because of that, he was living in Puebla but he was born and raised in the United States where he lived for 16 years. About his parents, they both were born in Jalisco, Mexico and moved into the U.S. illegally when they were young.

He spoke English and Spanish. He learned English at school and Spanish at home so he used English with friends and Spanish with his family. He knew the term Spanglish and he used it all the time with his friends and when he noticed that when he cannot figure out how to say something in any language, he mixed them up.

His opinion about the use of Spanglish was positive because from his point of view, he considered that Spanglish helped him to communicate better and he affirmed that it is commonly used by a lot of Mexican Americans. Finally, if he could choose between these two languages, he would choose Spanglish because it is an easier way of communicating.

4.1.2 Participant N° 2 Tania

The second participant was Tania, a young girl who was 19 years old, one of the youngest participants. She was from West Covina in California, but she lived in Riverside that is located in the South of the same State. She had lived there for 6 years. Her parents were Mexicans, her mother was from Puebla and her father was from Zacatecas

In the second section, she told me that she spoke English and Spanish and she considered that she had a good level in both languages. She used Spanglish very often but just with friends and did not try to use it with her family because she thought it was not proper but sometimes it slipped.

Her opinion about Spanglish was that it is used by many Mexicans who live in the U.S. and when she read her texts; she concluded that Spanglish was not appropriate because it was complicated to understand when reading and if she had to choose one of the two languages, she would choose Spanish because it defined her origins.

4.1.3 Participant N° 3 Maria

The third participant was Maria a girl who was 27 years old. She was born and lived in Los Angeles California for 11 years. Then she moved to Ontario in the same State where she lived. Her parents were from Mexico, her mother was from Guadalajara and her father was from Puebla. She was bilingual; her first language was Spanish which she learned from her parents and then she learned English at school. Although she lived in the United States, she considered that she had a better level in Spanish than in English because she liked it more than English and sometimes she forgot how to pronounce words in English.

Maria knew the term Spanglish and she used it with friends because they were bilingual too and most of them had Mexican parents like her. She considered that she used Spanglish just once a month and she did not really like mixing languages.

Her general opinion about the use of English was that it is very important to get better positions in society and Spanish because it represents her roots, so if she could choose, she would prefer Spanish because of what it means to her. And finally, Spanglish was not really important for her because she used it just for fun.

4.1.4 Participant N° 4 Eva

The fourth participant was Eva, another younger girl who was 19 years old. She was from the East of Los Angeles where she was born and lived for three years. After that she moved to Ontario, California. Her parents were from Mexico, her mother was from Guadalajara and her father was from Puebla.

She spoke Spanish and she learned it because her parents speak it and learned English at school. She was not really sure about her level in both languages because she affirmed that when she used Spanish, she forgot some words and when using English she did not speak it properly. She knew the term Spanglish and she used it all the time just with her family and friends because at the school she mainly used in English unless it was necessary to speak in Spanish.

She said that the use of Spanglish depends on people's decision because they choose which language to use. Her general opinion about Spanish was that it means a lot for her because her parents speak it. Then, English was very important because she learned it at school and Spanglish was just to have fun when she was speaking.

4.1.5 Participant N° 5 Miriam

The fifth participant was Miranda, a Mexican girl who was 23 years old. She was from Tijuana, Baja California and she had lived there her entire life. Her parents were Mexican like the other participants, her father was from Zacatecas and her mother was from Durango.

Her mother tongue was Spanish and she spoke English fluently and a little of German. She learned English because since kindergarten she took English classes and living in the border between Mexico and the United States facilitates communication in both languages. Because of that, watching movies, open television channels from San Diego and listening to the radio helped her to develop her speaking. And she spoke German because she took a course at College. She knew about Spanglish and she said that she used it all the time when she wanted to express herself with her friends. She had known a lot of people who use Spanglish when working and she inferred that it occurs because of the fact of being attached to many cultural elements from the U.S. culture such as music, movies and websites.

In her personal opinion, she said that Spanish was very important for her because it was part of her life. She used it in the place where she lived and it was a very important part of her job as a journalist. She also considered English as important as Spanish because living in the border implies communicating in both languages. Finally, she considered Spanglish as a part of each person's identity depending on his/her relationship to the cultural elements from English speaking countries.

4.1.6 Participant N° 6 Jimena

The sixth participant was Jimena, a Twenty-five-year-old girl from California who had lived in Ontario her entire life. About her background, her parents were Mexicans. Her father was from Ocotitlán in Puebla and her mother was from Guadalajara, Jalisco in Mexico.

In the second section she gave information about her languages. She spoke English and Spanish and her first language was Spanish because she learned it from her parents and her second language was English because she learned it at school. She used Spanglish very often. Her opinion was that unfortunately kids who have Mexican parents like her do not learn both languages, so they cannot mix them anymore. She considered that when she wrote she did it a lot in Spanglish but when she had to speak, she tried to choose just one language.

4.1.7 Participant N° 7 Isa

The seventh participant was Isa, a girl who was 23 years old. She was from California in the United States and she was living in Ontario at the moment of the interview where she had lived for 15 years. Her parents were Mexicans and she spoke both languages, English and Spanish. Like the other participants she learned Spanish at home with her parents and English at school. She considered she had a good English level and an intermediate level in Spanish.

Isa knew the meaning of Spanglish and she used it, but not very often. She used Spanglish at home mostly, around family and very close friends. Her opinion about the use of Spanglish was that it is used by Mexican American or Mexicans commonly who are raised in the United States. She said that for her, English meant freedom because it let

people become part of a country that offers many opportunities and has an essential value for work, school and society. In the case of Spanish, it was as important as English for her because it was her mother tongue and she thought that being bilingual in the United States helps people to communicate with English and Spanish speakers. And finally, about the use of Spanglish, she considered that it was an improper style of mixing these two languages and she did not really consider one language more important than the other so she perfectly knew when to use English and when it was proper to use Spanish.

4.1.8 Participant N° 8 Omar

The last participant was Omar, a man who was 30 years old. He lived in Los Angeles and he was born and raised there. His both parents were from Mexico. He spoke both languages English and Spanish and he learned Spanish at home where his parents speak it and English at school.

He considered he had a proficient English level but not in Spanish because of the low Education level that his parents had. He could speak Spanish but not fluently. Regarding to the term Spanglish, he knew and used it every day with his Hispanics friends but just for fun.

His general opinion about these both languages was that English is very important in the United States and around the world because this language moves economies worldwide. And Spanish is very important to communicate in the U.S. and Latin America as well. Spanish is his parents' language so he felt the necessity to learn it not to lose his origins and identity as a Hispanic.

Finally, about the use of Spanglish, he thought that it was a way to maintain Spanish alive with them like an indirect form to keep in mind that they are Latino/Mexicans. For him, Spanglish was two flavors; mixing English and Spanish like a new dialect.

4.2 Data Collection

In order to explore the use of Spanglish, I looked for texts used in Social Networks, conversations or even profile status written in Spanglish. There was no specific extension, number of words or a specific topic, the only requirement was that they had to be written in Spanish and English.

When the texts were found, they had to be collected and analyzed in order to find relevant information that could help to find an answer to the research questions.

Some of the participants had more than one text to analyze, so the very first task was to choose all the texts and organize them in groups depending on the person who wrote them. The first table contains persons' name under pseudonymous and the number of the text.

	MARIA	JIMENA	OMAR	TANIA	EVA	ISA	DAVID	MIRIAM
TEXT 1								
TEXT 2								
TEXT 3								
TEXT 4								
TEXT 5								
TEXT 6								
TEXT 7								
TEXT 8								

Then, the pieces of text were divided into Spanish and English. The words or phrases in Spanish were in red and English in blue as in the example below, it helped to distinguish how much of the text participants mixed.

Voy a ir alavar
porque today I
work in the
afternoon ojala
they hire me

After that, there were two more tables in order to separate all the words or phrases in Spanish and English to facilitate the analysis of the situations when people used Spanglish. This instrument, text analysis let us have a wide outlook of how Spanglish is normally written.

In order to analyze the written texts in Spanglish, it was necessary to classify them into categories to have a clearer and more understandable analysis to get reliable results. The categories were made according to what the participants wrote trying to infer what they really wanted to express through their texts.

To start with the analysis it was necessary to divide each text in English and Spanish, so there were two different tables depending on the language. In each table there were 9 categories to compare the two languages and then gave more details to have a general conclusion.

As mentioned in chapter 2, Crystal (1987) said that code-switching occurs when a bilingual person alternates between two languages during his or her speech with another bilingual person. This phenomenon was taken into account during all the process of this research because Spanglish is a clear example of code-switching and all the texts had a clear

alternation between English and Spanish words. In the following paragraphs we can see how participants alternated between Spanish and English when they wrote and according to the categories the reader will compare under which circumstances people used more Spanglish.

4.3 Describing Situations

This category was the most extensive because it was used more in both languages. It showed us the description of a situation that happened to the participant or was happening at the moment they were writing. Because it is a description, it had to be more detailed and there were more words, so the code-switching of English and Spanish was extensive.

The sentences used to describe in Spanish were the following:

- (1) *En el doctor ojala y pase*
- (2) *Voy a ir alavar porque ojala*
- (3) *"@club santos lagun: 56' Buena jugada de Benjamín Joya por la banda derecha, es derribado apenas afuera del área."*
- (4) *Tipico ' tienes un amigo en Facebook te lo encuentras en la calle y no te habla, pero despues te escribe en tu te mire en tal parte!!*
- (5) *Trabajar, lavar caramba mejor ya me voy a casar para q me laven, no no pero pensándolo bien mejor no, por q voy a tener q lavar el doble.*
- (6) *El partido de maniana estara bien intenso !!!xD JAGUARES vs. Raptores Sabado a las 7pm PFLC*

If we assimilate the sentences to describe these situations, there were important words that give us a wide idea about how participants manage their Spanish. Words like *ojalá*, *bien intenso*, *caramba* were showed in the two first sentences. These words are presented when speakers have enough experience using Spanish.

Likewise, the sentences used in English were the following:

- (1) *Buying for the wedding*
- (2) *today I work in the afternoon they hire me*
- (3) *Checking the album....Here in NY. under age already breaking the rules.....Drinking....lol*
- (4) *Game day tomorrow!*
- (5) *After a week in LA*

In the sentences, there were descriptions from different situations and vocabulary that was presented and used frequently, so there was no problem to understand the meaning.

4.4 Expressions

In the category Expressions there were a huge variety of phrases or sentences that were very close to participants' feelings or thoughts. These were not simple words or phrases because the use of these expressions was more explicit. For example, the most common Spanish expressions were:

- (1) *primero dios*
- (2) *ahora si a chingarle*
- (3) *aguitada que quiere el desgraciado*
- (4) *Hoy voy a comer birria, una chivita en un restaurante Tapatio con la segunda mejor puesta en mi, EL AMERICA (Primero es la, de Mi Puebla, Los Camoteros). Voy a sofocar la birria en su torta Ahogada, para k pierda el Oxygeno, VIVAN LAS AGUILAS DEL AMERICA, MI FAMILIA K LA VAN HA LAS CHIVAS*
- (5) *Porque Nada Me Falta gracias ah dios y a mis padres*
- (6) *sigele echando ganas*
- (7) *A darle con todo!!*

If we analyze the previous expressions, they showed us how people felt at the moment of writing. For example the first sentence showed a desire of something, a kind of hope to any situation. In number 2, 6 and 7 the expressions showed strengthens because they were used to support someone or self-motivation to do something. Expression number 3 showed a feeling of anger and mood, how this person felt when she wrote it. Expression number 5 was an example of gratefulness where the participant wanted to demonstrate

her gratitude because of everything she had. And the last expression, number 4 probably could be difficult for people who are not involved in Mexican culture because words like *birria*, *tapatio*, *el américa*, *los camoteros* and *torta ahogada* are difficult to understand if the reader is not familiarized with Mexican culture so there is a cultural factor immersed in this sentence.

Similarly, some English expressions were:

- (1) Finally home sweet home!
- (2) i love you
- (3) FUCKING

Like the previous expressions, these ones showed some attitudes that they wanted to show satisfaction in the first sentence, love in the second, and a strong anger or just to emphasize what comes next in the third expression.

4.5 Wishes

This category was less used but not less important. With just one sentence in each language they described situations using words like *espero* and *I really wish I would have gone* and wishes that participants express.

For example:

(1) *espero se sienta mejor a hoy te amo mama*

(1) *So today four yrs ago my past away i really wish i would have gone to mexico but nehow i luv*

4.6 Feelings

Although feeling involves sentiments, sometimes they are not expressed clearly. In the case of this category, participants expressed themselves intrinsically. For example in the following pieces of texts

- (1) *abuela ezperanza siempre n nuestros corazones*
- (2) *ahora devuelta en la Comarca Lagunera, que pasen buen día mi gente!*
- (3) *Te extraño muchísimo abuelito quisiera q aun estuvieras con nosotros para decirte lo mucho q te queremos . Fuiste como mi segundo papa quisiera q siguieras vivo pero ya estas en un mejor lugar abuelo*

In text number 1 and 3 participants expressed through writing the feeling of sadness, although they did not say “I am sad”, they expressed it by remembering a person who was very important for them. And in phrase number 2, the writer expressed certain happiness or satisfaction for being back to “La Comarca Lagunera” in Torreón, Mexico.

Related to English feelings, we had the following:

- (1) *Getting home & recieving bad news.! Idair Lupita its hard to believe your not here anymore with us but you are now in a better place with your lil angels. We'll miss you !'*

This was the only phrase in this category and there was an evident feeling of sadness expressed to someone who passed away.

4.7 Congratulations

As the title describes, in this category there were texts that let us know how people congratulate in English and if it is different from Spanish.

In Spanish:

- (1) *hermnitoo Que disoitoo te bendiga y te cuide siempre Te mandoo un abrasoo .♥ Que cumplas muchos mas con tu fam. Y los que te kieren*
- (2) *Felicidades Y que diosito te de mas años por vivr alado de tu familia que somos nosotros Tqm.! Feliz Cumpleaños*
- (3) *Hermanaaa! Y que cumplas muchos anos mas! (: ehh!! !! ya te dije muchote! :D*

In English:

- (1) *Happy mothers days to everybody*
- (2) *Hey bro. Happy Birthdayy..! Hope you are enjoying your day up to now .! My best wishes huge ♥ love you cuzn .!! :)*
- (3) *I want to wish this amazing man a happy birthday.! I love you dad your the best throughout the good and bad times.! daddy i love you .! i love you dad .!*
- (4) *Haappy Birthdaay Sister!! Wish You the Bestt (: ehh!! !! & NO Mariiage!! Ok! I love youu Sister!& have a good one with the famm! (: love you :D hope you like the pics haha*
- (5) *Happy birthday grandpa . i love you R.I.P happy birthd*

4.8 Opinion

In the last category there was just one opinion in English where the participant wanted to express her point of view according to one situation and the literal opinion was:

iJust Reead a Status saying I want to have A Baby uff yea a baby is a blessing of course iaint denying that but let me tell you i have 2kids im 19 and ita fkenn hard you have to be committed 100% to your kids theres less party less funn You have to worry about diappers formula all these typaa things trust me its a hustle dont get me wrong i love my kids but if i could i wouldve waited till i got my own dam place my own car ah job and then maybe think about having one BUT to all you ladies with babiess That are keeping it 100% with or without your babydaddy Madd Respext cus it aint Easy ...

To sum up, these categories helped to make a detailed analysis dividing the text into languages and analyzing each category according to the usage. Also comparing the use of each language allows the reader to understand under which circumstances Spanglish was used. For example, in Opinion, Congratulations and Describing Situations categories there is just 1 opinion, 7 congratulations in English and just 3 in Spanish, and 14 to 13 situations described in English so they felt more comfortable to express their opinions and describe

situations because it is the language that they had to use in order to express themselves in the U.S. society. Then, they felt free to write any detail to describe a situation at the moment of writing and to congratulate people because probably they were accustomed to hear or congratulate in English.

iJust Reead a Status saying
I want to have A Baby
uff **ni sabes en lo q metes** yeaa a baby is a blessing of
course iaint denying that but let me tell you i have
2kids im 19 and ita fkenn hard you have to be
committed 100% to your kids theres less party less
funn You have to worry about diappers formula all
these typaa things **que necesitan** trust me its a haste
dont get me wrong i love my kids but if i could i wouldve
waited till i got my own dam place my own car ah job
and then maybe think about having one
BUT to all you ladies with babiess That are keeping it
100% with or without your babydaddy Madd Respect
cus it aint Easy ...

IM BORED MIS HIJAS
ENFERMAS JUNTO
CONMIGO CON
MUCHO FRIO PENSE
QUE IBA SER
DIFERENTE BUT NO

Happy late bday i love u u
kno ur like my little brother
we grew up together and im
so proud of all ur
accomplishments **sigele**
echando ganas miss u hope
to see u soon n have i hope
u had fun!!!!'

Buying **cosas** for
the wedding

I like this
pregnancy my
skin is clean n
especiallly **bien**
hermosa

So today four yrs ago my
abuela ezperanza past
away i really wish i would
have gone to mexico but
nehow i luv **siempre n**
nuestros corazones

Finally, Spanish was dominant in categories like Expressions and Feelings. It demonstrated that participants feel secure when writing and expressing their feelings using phrases that are common in Spanish context and in this case related to Mexican culture.

Con mi brother!!	Game day tomorrow! A darle con todo!!	After a week in LA ahora devuelta en la Comarca Lagunera, que pasen buen día mi gente!
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4.9 Chapter summary

In order to give a general conclusion about participants' opinions it is important to highlight some relevant details. To start with the use of Spanglish in Social Networks, these new ways of communication are presented more in young people who have more access to internet and it is as normal as face to face communication. Because of that, this project was focused on young generations analyzing people between 19 and 30 years.

All of them shared the same characteristics such as Mexican parents and Spanish as their mother tongue and English as a second language. They spoke Spanglish and used it very often with friends mostly. Most of them coincided that the use of Spanglish was because they forget words, if they were speaking in English and did not remember a word; they changed into Spanish and vice versa. For some of them mixing both languages was fun, easy and normal. They did not think it was bad because they knew where to use English or Spanish.

In addition, identity was a very important role on this project because let us examine the perception of the participants. Gudykunst (2003) explains identity as an individual's unique characteristic, irrespective of cultural or social group. According to identity, there were some points to discuss. Although participants shared similar backgrounds, there were other details that gave us a different perspective. For example, 7 of them had no the necessity to manage both languages properly because of their conditions. They were wives or had a job where they use the language just for communication like David who was a soccer player. They affirmed that when they speak in Spanglish they did it just for fun and if these people could choose one of the two languages, most of them preferred Spanish because it represents their roots and their parents' language. However others were conscious of the role that English plays in their lives when they said that English lets people have more opportunities and being bilingual in the U.S facilitates communication with English speakers. On the other hand, Miriam considered that Spanglish is used according to each person and the cultural elements that each one has. She used it just with her friends and she considered English as important as Spanish because of her job basically. Living in the border between Mexico and the United States implies that people should use English in an efficient way and Spanish because was required for her job as a journalist where she had to work with a proper language.

As this participant considered, identity had an important role when people preferred to speak in one or other language but also the conditions around them created a necessity to use each language accurately and appropriately.

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSIONS

5.0 Overview

The fundamental purpose of this research was to analyze the use of Spanglish in Social Networks. These texts were written by people who speak English and Spanish simultaneously.

Then, each text was analyzed and categorized according to its use in order to get the reasons that people have to use Spanglish in their writings. After selecting and analyzing the texts, an interview was necessary to ask participants their opinions about their use of Spanglish.

All the data collected were analyzed and its results are presented in the following chapter. Apart from that, there are conclusions and interpretations gathered through the whole process of the research, as well as some limitations and recommendations for further research that I want to consider.

5.1 Results

Social Networks have an important impact in people communication and the use of the language is important to understand how Mexico American people feel when they mix English and Spanish and why they do it.

In order to answer the first research question of this project, the texts were analyzed and they were chosen randomly.

5.1.1 RQ1: How is Spanglish used in Social Networks?

There were 8 participants, 2 male and 6 females between 19 and 30 years old. Most of the participants were born and raised in the United States. One was born in Tijuana, Baja California but she lived a similar situation like the other 7 participants. Although they were born and lived in the United States, the participants had Mexican parents from different states such as Puebla, Jalisco and Zacatecas. According to the language, all the participants were bilingual and they spoke Spanish and English.

It is important to mention that one of the important findings was that people who use Social Networks has no rules for writing properly so when people write in Spanglish they write like they talk because of the immediateness in communication through internet.

Once the texts were classified in each category, the results showed that English is used more in contexts where people want to describe a situation that was happening at the time they were writing, for example they described what they had done during their day or if something happened to them at home, at school or with their friends.

English is also used to congratulate a friend, cousin or a relative; it is presented more than Spanish. People used more words and phrases in English in order to say how they felt because of a birthday or a graduation. Finally, the same happened when giving an opinion. When participants wanted to express their ideas about any situation for example, getting married or having a child, they felt the necessity to express their opinions in English mostly.

Basically, the decision of writing more in English in the above situations is because participants used English in everyday communication and these usages are applied in familiar contexts and with friends because it is the setting where participants used

Spanglish. They felt probably, more secure when using English because it is necessary when talking to native people in the U.S.

According to the data in this study, Spanish was used by Mexican Americans because it is their mother tongue and their parents' language. However, the use of Spanish differs from their use of English because certain Spanish words that are used only in Mexican contexts such as *Primero Dios, siguele echando ganas, a darle con todo!!*

The data also indicates that they use Spanish to express feelings, for example when they miss someone who passed away or at the time they were doing an activity. If they were feeling sad, happy, and exhausted or bored, they expressed it through their writings. If we analyze the use of Spanish, it is used when expressing feelings because participants felt more confident and probably had more words to express themselves.

5.1.2 RQ2: What are Hispanic people's opinions about the use of Spanglish in Social Networks?

In order to answer this question, the use of interviews was necessary to know people's opinions about the use of Spanglish. Comparing the written texts and participants' opinions was a form to gather conclusions. There was relevant information about what people think about their use of Spanglish and if they preferred Spanish or English.

Most of the answers showed that they considered Spanglish as a language, a new dialect and just an amusing way to communicate. It is used by Mexican Americans, Mexicans or Latin Americans. They also accepted Spanglish because it is a phenomenon that happens to them frequently when they forget a word in Spanish or English.

Others thought that the use of Spanglish was important because it let them keep Spanish alive with them. Almost all the participants accepted Spanglish because for them it is normal when they are immersed in both languages.

Almost all the participants told me that they have a good level in English because they learned it in the school and it is the language that they use at work or they use in Social Media. According to *Miriam* who lived in Baja California, she said that living in the border makes you get a lot of English influence from the USA. English also is one of the priorities in schools. For her, English is as important as Spanish.

So, the data indicates that the context is part of the use of Spanglish because it also determines if a person needs to use one or the other language properly.

For example, David who was a soccer player said that his use of Spanglish was just for fun and for fluent communication. In contrast *Miriam*'s context, was completely different because her work as a journalist implied the use of Spanish and English in an appropriate and understandable way.

The participants learned Spanish because of their parents who were Mexicans. This implies that most of the words they learned first were in Spanish. Participants did not reject this language because it was very important for them. It was their parents' language and it let them keep their Mexican roots with them.

Regarding identity, Spanglish indicates that when people use Spanglish they speak both languages accurately. They would prefer one language but they both were important for their lives.

5.2 Limitations of the Research

During the whole process of this research there were some difficulties that did not let me to complete this project as I wanted.

One of the limitations was the number of participants because I considered 12 participants at the beginning but when I asked them for an interview, 4 of them did not accept.

Another limitation was the lack of information in the interviews because of the poor experience that I had interviewing and I consider that could get more details.

5.3 Suggestions for Further Research

The first idea of this research was to analyze conversations where participants use just Spanglish, but because of the distance it could not be possible. So texts were the best option and it let me examine how Social Networks are use today.

One of the suggestions that I could find was that this situation is common and presented in different ways. For example at my language department, where this thesis was developed there are students who have the same conditions described in this project; they have Mexican parents and they speak English and Spanish. They come to Mexico and decide to study the English Language Teaching bachelor, so it could be interesting to understand how they manage this situation when their purpose is to use English and even Spanish formally with the objective to teach one or the two languages.

5.4 Personal Reflection of the Research Experience

As a personal reflection I would like to say that it was an enjoyable process full of interesting experiences.

I faced with some difficulties during the process that made me learn more about it. The selection of the topic, the literature review and the data analysis. I think I needed more practice before this process. Although there were difficulties, now I can understand more about Spanglish and what is behind this phenomenon. It is a big motivation to introduce myself in the research field and I hope it does not finish here.

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APPENDIX A – TEXTS IN SPANGLISH EXTRACTED FROM SOCIAL NETWORKS

	MARIA	JIMENA
TEXT 1	Buying cosas for the wedding	So i get home all aguitada thinking like damn i got a flat tire....i get home n my car has a new tire n im like awww my dad fix it to my surprise my mom says my bbysdaddy fix itim like wat????que quiere el desgraciado lol so i call him and tell him okay what u want lol n he says nothing im like hmmm okey thanxx!!!!.....weird but thankgoodness i dont gotta wait for a ride
TEXT 2	En el doctor ojala y pase fast cause my neace is having tball	So today four yrs ago my abuela ezperanza passed away i really wish i would have gone to mexico but nehow i luv siempre n nuestros corazones
TEXT 3	IM BORED MIS HIJAS ENFERMAS JUNTO CONMIGO CON MUCHO FRIO PENSE QUE IBA SER DIFERENTE BUT NO	so freaken xcited I have a job thank god ahora si a chingarle
TEXT 4	I like this pregnancy my skin is clean n especialmente bien hermosa	so xcited have an interview yeii wish me luck cross fingers primero dios :))
TEXT 5	Voy a ir alavar porque today I work in the afternoon ojala they hire me	
TEXT 6	Im 5 months prego y me hicieron ultrasound y va ser boy	
TEXT 7	Today im at the hospital taking care of my mom espero se sienta mejor a hoy te amo mama	
TEXT 8	Happy mothers days to everybody	

	<p>pero principalmente a mi mama que Es todo para mi y que no digo mas porque le tengo su guardadito LA AMO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</p>	
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	EVA	MIRIAM
TEXT 1	<p>im lucky iCan Call my babydaddy MINE Porque Honestly Nada Me Falta gracias ah dios y a mis padres cus frm this day foward & evenn before when i was in my mommas tummy iHad Everything iNEEDED n Now iHave What iNeed and What im Still Going higher For What iWant</p>	<p>y veremos adventure time</p>
TEXT 2	<p>::Raisedd At Ontario; Never Gunna Feel More Home than Here But Honestly im Tryna Move Far From Heree or Travel iWana Start New with My Familia &' it Will Happen (;</p>	<p>hell yeah! nos dejaron la misma tarea que a ustedes xD</p>
TEXT 3	<p>iJust Reead a Status saying I want to have A Baby uff ni sabes en lo q metes yeaa a baby is a blessing of course iaint denying that but let me tell you i have 2kids im 19 and ita fkenn hard you have to be committed 100% to your kids theres less party less funn You have to worry about diappers formula all these typaa things que necesitan trust me its a hassle dont get me wrong i love my kids but if i could i wouldve waited till i got my own dam place my own car ah job and then maybe think about having one BUT to all you ladies with babiess That are keeping it 100% with or wothout your babydaddy Madd Respext cus it aint Easy ...</p>	<p>FUCKING CAMPAMENTO</p>
TEXT 4		<p>ufff me perdi el party hahahah!</p>
TEXT 5		<p>El motherfucking partido de maniana estara bien intenso !!!xD JAGUARES vs. Raptores Sabado a las 7pm PFLC</p>

	DAVID	OMAR
TEXT 1	Game day tomorrow! A darle con todo!!	Hoy voy a comer birria, una chivita en un restaurante Tapatio con la segunda mejor jersey puesta en mi, EL AMERICA (Primero es la number 1, de Mi Puebla, Los Camoteros). Voy a sofocar la birria en su torta Ahogada, para k pierda el Oxygeno, VIVAN LAS AGUILAS DEL AMERICA, I BOOOO!!!!!! MI FAMILIA K LA VAN HA LAS CHIVAS!!!!!!!!!!!! Traitors!!!!!!
TEXT 2	After a week in LA ahora devuelta en la Comarca Lagunera, que pasen buen día mi gente!	Checking the album.... Here in NY. Primos under age already breaking the rules..... Drinking.... lol
TEXT 3	"@club Santos Lagun: 56' Buena jugada de Benjamín Joya por la banda derecha, es derribado apenas afuera del área." my bro's tearing it up!!	
TEXT 4	it went good even tho we lost 3 out of 4 games. Nos falta mas kimica entre Los jugadores. The other teams were hella sick too	
TEXT 5	en eso estoy but I got back and they made hella changes I ma have to buy a house now	

	TANIA	ISA
TEXT 1	Omg felizidades also dos congrats Iris Morales I love u soo much	Happy late bday i love u u kno ur like my little brother we grew up together and im so proud of all ur accomplishments sigele echando ganas miss u hope to see u soon n have i hope u had fun!!!!!!

APRENDIX B – COMPARATIVE CHART FOR CATEGORIES ANALYSIS

CATEGORIES						
DESCRIBING SITUATIONS (7) - (12)						
En el doctor ojala y pase	MIS HIJAS ENFERMAS JUNTO CONMIGO CON MUCHO FRIO PENSE QUE IBA SER DIFERENTE	bien hermosa	Voy a ir alavar porque ojala	y me hicieron y va ser	“@club Santos Laguna: 56' Buena jugada de Benjamín Joya por la banda derecha, es derribado apenas afuera del área.”	nos dejaron la misma tarea que a ustedes

EXPRESSIONS (11) - (4)					
aguitada que quiere el desgraciado	ahora si a chingarle	primero dios	Hoy voy a comer birria, una chivita en un restaurante Tapatio con la segunda mejor puesta en mi, EL AMERICA (Primero es la, de Mi Puebla, Los Camoteros). Voy a sofocar la birria en su torta Ahogada, para k pierda el Oxígeno, VIVAN LAS AGUILAS DEL AMERICA, MI FAMILIA K LA VAN HA LAS CHIVAS	Porque Nada Me Falta gracias ah dios y a mis padres	uff ni sabes en lo q metes que necesitan
sigele echando ganas	A darle con todo!!	Nos falta mas kimica entre Los jugadores.	El partido de maniana estara bien intenso !!!xD JAGUARES vs. Raptores Sabado a las 7pm PFLC	en eso estoy	

WISHES (1) - (1)

espero se sienta mejor a hoy te amo mama

FEELINGS (3) - (5)

pero principalmente a mi
mama que Es todo para mi y
que no digo mas porque le
tengo su guardadito LA
AMO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

abuela ezperanza siempre
n nuestros corazones

ahora devuelta en la
Comarca Lagunera, que
pasen buen día mi gente!

CONGRATULATIONS (1) -(3)

felizidades dos Iris Morales

DESCRIBING SITUATIONS (12) - (7)

Buying for the wedding	fast cause my neace is having tball	I like this pregnancy my skin is clean n especially	today I work in the afternoon they hire me	Im 5 months prego ultrasound boy	Today im at the hospital taking care of my mom
So i get home all thinking like damn i got a flat tire....i get home n my car has a new tire n im like awww my dad fix it to my surprise my mom says my bbysdaddy fix itim like wat???? lol so i call him and tell him okay what u want lol n he says nothing im like hmmm okey thanxx!!!!.....weird but thankgoodness i dont gotta wait for a ride	Checking the album....Here in NY. under age already breaking the rules.....Drinking....lol	Game day tomorrow!	After a week in LA	my bro's tearing it up!!	it went good even tho we lost 3 out of 4 games. The other teams were hella sick too

EXPRESSIONS (4) - (11)

jersey number 1, Oxygeno, I BOOOO!!!!!!Traitors!!!!!!!	hell yeah!	FUCKING	motherfucking
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WISHES (1) - (1)

So today four yrs ago my past away i really wish i would have gone to mexico but nehow i luv

FEELINGS (5) - (3)

IM BORED BUT NO	so freaken xcited I have a job thank god	so xcited have an interview yeii wish me luck cross fingers	im lucky iCan Call my babydaddy MINE Honestly cus frm this day foward & evenn before when i was in my mommas tummy iHad Everything iNEEDED n Now iHave What iNeed and What im Still Going higher For What iWant	;;Raisedd At Ontario;; Never Gunna Feel More Home than Here But Honestly im Tryna Move Far From Heree or Travel iWana Start New with My &' it Will Happen (;
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CONGRATULATIONS (3) - (1)

Happy mothers days to everybody	Omg also congrats Iris Morales I love u soo much	Happy late bday i love u u kno ur like my little brother we grew up together and im so proud of all ur accomplishments miss u hope to see u soon n have i hope u had fun!!!!'
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OPINION (1) - (0)

iJust Reead a Status saying I want to have A Baby uff yea a baby is a blessing of course
iaint denying that but let me tell you i have 2kids im 19 and ita fkenn hard you have to be
committed 100% to your kids theres less party less funn You have to worry about diappers
formula all these typaa things trust me its a hassle dont get me wrong i love my kids but if i
could i wouldve waited till i got my own dam place my own car ah job and then maybe think
about having one BUT to all you ladies with babiess That are keeping it 100% with or without
your babydaddy Madd Respect cus it aint Easy ...

APRENDIX C – INTERVIEW GUIDELINE

Personal Information

1. How old are you?
2. Where do you live?
3. How long have you lived there?
4. Where are your parents from?

Languages Information

5. Which languages do you speak?
6. How did you learn them?
7. Do you consider you have a good level of English and Spanish?
8. Have you heard the term “Spanglish”?
9. Do you use “Spanglish”?
10. How often do you use it? Who do you use Spanglish with?
11. Who do you think use “Spanglish” mostly?

Spanglish texts were showed and opinions about it

12. What does English mean for you, how important is it for you?
13. What does Spanish mean for you, how important is it for you?
14. What does Spanglish mean for you, how important is it for you?

APRENDIX D – INTERVIEWS´ TRANSCRIPTS

PARTICIPANT 1 - DAVID

Interviewer: Ok, this will be an interview applied for a Research in "Facultad de Lenguas" at Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla.

DAVID: Okay.

Interviewer: Hello, could you tell me how old are you?

DAVID: I'm 20 years old.

Interviewer: Where do you live now?

DAVID: I am currently living in Puebla, Mexico.

Interviewer: Have you lived in the USA? How long have you been there?

DAVID: I was born and raised in the US. I lived there for 16 years.

Interviewer: Where are your parents from? From the USA too?

DAVID: Both my parents were born in Jalisco, Mexico and moved into the US illegally when they were young.

Interviewer: OK, and which languages do you speak?

DAVID: I speak both English and Spanish fluently.

Interviewer: And how did you learn them? At the school, at home... where do you usually use English and Spanish?

DAVID: I learned English in school and I spoke Spanish at home. I speak English with my friends and Spanish with my family.

Interviewer: Great! And have you heard the term "Spanglish"? Do you know what does that mean?

DAVID: Yeah I use it all the time.

Interviewer: And why? Do you use it when you talk to everybody?

DAVID: No mostly with my friends. When I can't figure how to say something in Spanish or English I'll mix them up.

Interviewer: Ok, I got it! And do you think your friends and you are the only who use Spanglish?

DAVID: No it's a language commonly used by a lot of Mexican Americans.

Interviewer: And what do you think about its use?

DAVID: I like it because I feel like it helps me to communicate better.

Interviewer: Good! Finally, could you read these texts and give me an opinion?

DAVID: Yeah!

Interviewer: *1. Game day tomorrow! A darle con todo!! 2. After a week in LA ahora devuelta en la Comarca Lagunera, que pasen buen día mi gente! 3. en eso estoy but I got back and they made hella changes I ma have to buy a house now*

DAVID: These are texts that I used right?

Interviewer: Yes, through Twitter.

DAVID: Well it's an easier way of communicating for me.

Interviewer: Do you prefer one language rather than the other?

DAVID: No I actually prefer Spanglish.

Interviewer: Great! That is all I wanted to know, thank you for helping me.

DAVID: No problema.

Interviewer: See you!

PARTICIPANT 2 - TANIA

Interviewer: Ok, this will be an interview applied for a Research in "Facultad de Lenguas" at Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla. Could you tell me, how old are you?

TANIA: I'm 19 years old.

Interviewer: Where do you live? And how long have you been there?

TANIA: I live in Riverside and I been living there for six years.

Interviewer: And where are you from?

TANIA: I am from West Covina, California.

Interviewer: So you have lived in the US all your life, right?

TANIA: Yes correct.

Interviewer: And your parents, where are they from?

TANIA: My parents are from Mexico. My mother is from Puebla and my dad from Zacatecas.

Interviewer: Perfect! And which languages do you speak?

TANIA: I speak Spanish and English.

Interviewer: Do you consider that you have a good English and Spanish level?

TANIA: Yes

Interviewer: Have you heard the term "Spanglish"? Do you know what it means?

TANIA: Yes I have and yes I know what it means.

Interviewer: And do you use Spanglish?

TANIA: Yes.

Interviewer: How often do you use it?

TANIA: Very often.

Interviewer: Do you speak it with your family and friends?

TANIA: Just friends. Sometimes with family, I try not use it with family.

Interviewer: Why not with family?

TANIA: Cause it's not proper either you speak to them in Spanish or English but it slips sometimes.

Interviewer: And do you think that your friends and you are the only who speak Spanglish?

TANIA: No

Interviewer: Who else speak like that or what kind of people use it?

TANIA: Mainly Chicanos, the Mexican people.

Interviewer: Great! Ok, now about the Social Networks like Facebook and Twitter, do you like using it? Are these networks good or bad for you and why?

TANIA: Yeah, and you just need to have self-control to don't be stuck on the internet all day.

Interviewer: It helps people to communicate, do you think so?

TANIA: Yes of course.

Interviewer: Ok, finally I will show you a text and you will give me an opinion, right?

TANIA: Yes.

Interviewer: *1. Omg felizidades also dos congrats Iris Morales I love u soo much*
What do you notice about it?

TANIA: There is Spanglish in the text and grammar errors.

Interviewer: Ok, not precisely your text, Spanglish in general is an appropriate way to write? Yes or no and why?

TANIA: Some people will be confused I had to read it 3 times to understand it.

Interviewer: And do you prefer speak in English or Spanish? Or either both...

TANIA: Both. I can't really pick just one.

Interviewer: And which language do you like most?

TANIA: Spanish

Interviewer: why?

TANIA: Because it really defines me from where my origin is.

Interviewer: Perfect! That is all I wanted to know, thank you very much for helping me.

TANIA: You are very welcome.

PARTICIPANT 3 - MARIA

Interviewer: Ok, this will be an interview applied for a Research in "Facultad de Lenguas" at Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla. Hello, could you tell me how old are you?

MARIA: I'm 27 years.

Interviewer: Where are you from?

MARIA: I'm from Los Angeles, California.

Interviewer: How long have you lived there?

MARIA: Well I was born in Los Angeles. I lived for 11 years then I moved to Ontario California and I have being for 13 years.

Interviewer: Very good! About your parents, where are they from?

MARIA: My mother is from Guadalajara, Mexico and my father from Puebla, Mexico.

Interviewer: And which languages do you speak and how did you learn them?

MARIA: I'm bilingual. My first language is Spanish which I learned from my parents and my second is English which I studied in school.

Interviewer: Well... and you consider that you have a good level in Spanish and English?

MARIA: No, not in English.

Interviewer: Why?

MARIA: I like more Spanish. Sometimes I forget how to pronounce words.

Interviewer: So, you think that you have a better level in Spanish than in English?

MARIA: Yes.

Interviewer: And, have you heard the term "Spanglish"?

MARIA: Yes I do.

Interviewer: Do you use it?

MARIA: Only with friends.

Interviewer: Your friends speak Spanglish too, right?

MARIA: Yes they do.

Interviewer: Do you think that just your friends and you speak it? Or what kind of people use it?

MARIA: Only friends. I don't use it at work, I'm very professional when it comes for jobs, courts, and government issues.

Interviewer: But, your friends are bilinguals too, right? Do they have Mexican parents like you?

MARIA: Yes they do, most of them.

Interviewer: Do you think it is used by people who live in the USA and have Mexican parents, like many of the people who live in your country?

MARIA: Yes I believe that most of the schools are Mexicans.

Interviewer: And how often do you use Spanglish? Like every day, once a week...

MARIA: Not every day. Once a month.

Interviewer: Do you like using Spanglish? Yes, no, why? Is it good or bad?

MARIA: No, is either one or the other.

Interviewer: Ok! Could you read these texts and give me an opinion?

MARIA: Sure

Interviewer: *1. Buying cosas for the wedding 2. En el doctor ojala y pase fast cause my neace is having tball 3. IM BORED MIS HIJAS ENFERMAS JUNTO CONMIGO CON MUCHO FRIO PENSE QUE IBA SER DIFERENTE BUT NO 4. I like this pregnancy my skin is clean n especially bien hermosa 5. Voy a ir alavar porque today I work in the afternoon ojala they hire me 6. Im 5 months prego y me hicieron ultrasound y va ser boy 7.*

Today im at the hospital taking care of my mom espero se sienta mejor a hoy te amo mama 8. Happy mothers days to everybody pero principalmente a mi mama que Es todo para mi y que no digo mas porque le tengo su guardadito LA AMO!!!!!!!!!!!!

Interviewer: What do you notice, what can you say about it?

MARIA: Well, first of all they don't sound ok and I don't use it like that. But honestly or you only speak Spanish or only English.

Interviewer: What does English mean for you? How important is for you? And what does Spanish mean for you? How important is Spanish for you?

MARIA: English is very important for me when it comes to obtain a better position with the society and Spanish is very very important because those are my Mexican roots, it means everything. I love Spanish.

Interviewer: If you had to choose between English and Spanish, what language would you choose?

MARIA: Spanish

Interviewer: Finally, about Spanglish what does it mean for you?

MARIA: Is not important, I just used it for fun.

Interviewer: Great! That's all I wanted to know thank you for helping me!

MARIA: Your welcome.

PARTICIPANT 4 - EVA

Interviewer: This will be an interview applied for a Research in "Facultad de Lenguas" at Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla. Hello, could you tell me how old are you?

EVA: Hello I am 19 years old.

Interviewer: Where are you from?

EVA: I'm from East Los Angeles.

Interviewer: How long have you lived there?

EVA: I was there for 3 years before I moved to Ontario.

Interviewer: Ok! About you parents, where are they from?

EVA: My mom is from Guadalajara and my dad from Puebla.

Interviewer: Which languages do you speak and how did you learn them?

EVA: I speak Spanish and English. I learned Spanish because my parents speak it and English I learned it from school.

Interviewer: Do you consider that you have a good Spanish and English level?

EVA: Yes in some way.

Interviewer: Why in some way?

EVA: In Spanish I forget how to say some words and in English I sometimes don't speak it properly.

Interviewer: Why do you think it happens?

EVA: Because I don't focus on anything when I say it.

Interviewer: You think it's unconscious?

EVA: Could be.

Interviewer: Ok and have you heard the term "Spanglish"?

EVA: Yes.

Interviewer: Do you use it and how frequently?

EVA: Yes I do and all the time.

Interviewer: With your family, friends and the school? Or just with certain people?

EVA: With family and friends and at school I talk only English unless it's necessary to talk Spanish.

Interviewer: What do you think about Spanglish? Do you think that only your family and friends use it?

EVA: It's easy to talk it and yes I think a lot of people use it.

Interviewer: But any kind of people?

EVA: Yes any kind.

Interviewer: Maybe people who speak English and Spanish use it, right?

EVA: Right.

Interviewer: Ok! Please, could you read these texts and give me an opinion?

Interviewer: *1. im lucky iCan Call my babydaddy MINE Porque Honestly Nada Me Falta gracias ah dios y a mis padres cus frm this day foward & evenn before when i was in my mommas tummy iHad Everything iNEEDED n Now iHave What iNeed and What im Still Going higher For What iWant 2. Never Gunna Feel More Home than Here But Honestly im Tryna Move Far From Heree or Travel iWana Start New with My Familia &' it Will Happen 3. "iJust Reead a Status saying I want to have A Baby uff ni sabes en lo q metes yea a baby is a blessing of course iaint denying that but let me tell you i have 2kids im 19 and ita fkenn hard you have to be committed 100% to your kids theres less party less funn You have to worry about diappers formula all these typaa things que necesitan trust me its a hustle dont get me wrong i love my kids but if i could i wouldve waited till i got my own dam place my own car ah job and then maybe think about having one BUT to all you*

*ladies with babiess That are keeping it 100% with or without your babydaddy Madd
Respect cus it aint Easy ... "*

Interviewer: What do they have in common, what do you think about them?

EVA: They have both English and Spanish and I think they don't sound bad because they're my thoughts.

Interviewer: Great! So, Spanglish is not bad, or yes?

EVA: No

Interviewer: What does Spanish mean for you? How important is it?

EVA: Spanish means a lot to me because my parents speak it and it's what they grew up talking.

Interviewer: What does English mean for you? How important is it?

EVA: English is important because I learned it from school.

Interviewer: And what does Spanglish mean for you?

EVA: Spanglish is like both languages put together to have fun with my speaking

Interviewer: Thank you for helping me.

EVA: Your welcome prima.

PARTICIPANT 5 - MIRIAM

Interviewer: Ok, let's start... This will be an interview applied for a Research in "Facultad de Lenguas" at Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla. Hello could you tell me, how old are you?

MIRIAM: Hi, I'm 23 years old.

Interviewer: Where are you from?

MIRIAM: I am from Tijuana, Baja California.

Interviewer: How long have you lived there?

MIRIAM: I have lived here my entire life.

Interviewer: And your parents, where are they from?

MIRIAM: My dad is from Zacatecas and my mom from Mexicali, but she's originally from Durango.

Interviewer: And how many languages do you speak?

MIRIAM: My mother language is Spanish, I speak a fluent English and a little German.

Interviewer: And how did you learn them?

MIRIAM: Well, I took English classes since Kindergarten, but mainly living in the border, watching movies, open television channels from San Diego and hearing the radio helped me to develop my speaking. As to the German, I took a class back in College.

Interviewer: Interesting and have you heard the term "Spanglish"?

MIRIAM: Yes.

Interviewer: Do you use it? how frequently?

MIRIAM: Yes, all the time specially when I want to express myself with my friends.

Interviewer: And do you think just your friends and you use it?

MIRIAM: No, I've known plenty of people who use it I've even heard it at work.

Interviewer: Really? And these people have something in common, apart from speaking in Spanglish?

MIRIAM: I think the fact of being attached to many cultural elements from the United States like music, movies and websites.

Interviewer: Ok, ok and what does Spanish mean for you, how important is it for you? And what does English mean for you, how important is it for you? And Spanglish, does it have any importance for you?

MIRIAM: Well, Spanish is very important to me because is part of my life, part of the place where I live and part of my job as a journalist. English it's almost as important as it is Spanish because living in the border implies be able to communicate in two languages. In the case of Spanglish, I guess is part of the identity of each one according to the level of the relation to cultural elements from English speaking countries.

Interviewer: Great! Ok now, I'll show you some lines and you'll tell me an opinion. What do you notice or think about it. **1. y veremos adventure time 2. FUCKING CAMPAMENTO 3. uff me perdi el party hahahah!**

MIRIAM: I think these are common expressions. I've used all of them.

Interviewer: Ok, that's all I wanted to know thank you for helping me.

MIRIAM: You're welcome!

Interviewer: Thank you, see you!

PARTICIPANT 6 - JIMENA

Interviewer: This will be an interview applied for a Research in "Facultad de Lenguas" at Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla. Hello, could you tell me how old are you?

JIMENA: I'm 25 years old

Interviewer: Where do you live?

JIMENA: I live in Ontario California.

Interviewer: How long have you lived there?

JIMENA: I've been living in Ontario Ca. For 15 years.

Interviewer: Where are your parents from?

JIMENA: My father is from Ocotitlán Puebla, Mexico and my mother is from Guadalajara, Jalisco.

Interviewer: Which languages do you speak?

JIMENA: I speak both English and Spanish.

Interviewer: How did you learn them?

JIMENA: Spanish was my first language and I learned from my parents and English I learned in school.

Interviewer: Have you heard the term "Spanglish"?

JIMENA: Spanglish, yes I have.

Interviewer: Do you use "Spanglish"? How often do you use it? Who do you use Spanglish with?

JIMENA: I use it often.

Interviewer: Who do you think use "Spanglish" mostly?

JIMENA: Unfortunately kids that come from Mexican parents.

Interviewer: What does Spanglish mean for you, how important is it for you?

JIMENA: When we are here we end up learning both and mix words.

Interviewer: Could you read these texts and tell me; what do you notice and think of this?

1. So i get home all aguitada thinking like damn i got a flat tire....i get home n my car has a new tire n im like awww my dad fix it to my surprise my mom says my bbysdaddy fix itim like wat????que quiere el desgraciado lol so i call him and tell him okay what u want lol n he says nothing im like hmmm okey thanxx!!!!....weird but thankgoodness i dont gotta wait for a ride. 2. So today four yrs ago my abuela ezperanza past away i really wish i would have gone to mexico but nehow i luv siempre n nuestros corazones 3. so freaken xcited I have a job thank god ahora si a chingarle 4. so xcited have an interview yeii wish me luck cross fingers primero dios :))

JIMENA: Really bad now that I think about it I write Spanglish a lot but I either speak English or Spanish.

Interviewer: That's all I wanted to know thank you for helping me.

JIMENA: You're welcome

PARTICIPANT 7 - ISA

Interviewer: How old are you?

ISA: I'm 23 years old.

Interviewer: Where do you live?

ISA: I live in Ontario, California.

Interviewer: How long have you lived there?

ISA: I've lived in this city for about 15 years.

Interviewer: Where are your parents from?

ISA: My parents are both from Mexico.

Interviewer: Which languages do you speak?

ISA: I speak both English and Spanish.

Interviewer: How did you learn them?

ISA: I learned Spanish at home and English in school.

Interviewer: Do you consider you have a good level of English and Spanish?

ISA: Well I believe I have a good level in English and an intermediate level in Spanish.

Interviewer: Have you heard the term "Spanglish"?

ISA: Yes, I have.

Interviewer: Do you use "Spanglish"?

ISA: Yes, but not often.

Interviewer: How often do you use it?

ISA: I usually use mostly at home around family or close friends.

Interviewer: Who do you think use "Spanglish" mostly?

ISA: I believe the people that mostly use Spanglish are people who are Mexican American or Mexicans who get raised here.

Interviewer: What does English mean for you, how important is it for you?

ISA: English to me means freedom being able to be part of a country that has so many opportunities for you. It's important for the fact that it is so essential for work, school, and society.

Interviewer: What does Spanish mean for you, how important is it for you?

ISA: Spanish is just as important to me as English. As many people know the population in South California consist mostly of Hispanics or Latinos. Many who only know how to speak Spanish. Spanish is also my primary language. Being bilingual here allows you to communicate with two different worlds Spanish speakers and English as well

Interviewer: What does Spanglish mean for you, how important is it for you?

ISA: Spanglish is an improper way of how we mix these languages together and therefore we put at risk the proper way to speak these languages for us and for our decendency. It's not as important but sometimes i feel like saying a word or words in Spanish I would best express myself to whomever I'm speaking with.

Interviewer: Could you read this text and tell me; what do you notice and think of this?

1. Happy late bday i love u u kno ur like my little brother we grew up together and im so proud of all ur accomplishments sigele echando ganas miss u hope to see u soon n have i hope u had fun!!!!'

ISA: Well to begin with it is written improperly. It contains multiple grammar errors. They use Spanglish at the end of the passage. I believe it is also missing a couple words, possibly.

Interviewer: Ok! That is everything, thank you for your help.

ISA: Your welcome, see you!

PARTICIPANT 8 OMAR

Interviewer: How old are you?

OMAR: I am 30 years old

Interviewer: Where do you live? How long have you lived there?

OMAR: I live in L.A. I was born and raised in Los Angeles.

Interviewer: Where are your parents from?

OMAR: My parents are from Mexico.

Interviewer: Which languages do you speak? How did you learn them?

OMAR: I speak both languages. I learned Spanish from home and my parents too since we are the first or second generation. I learned English in school.

Interviewer: Do you consider you have a good level of English and Spanish?

OMAR: I am proficient in English. But in Spanish maybe not due to the low level of education from my parents. I speak Spanish but not as perfect as any regular Spanish speaker.

Interviewer: Have you heard the term “Spanglish”?

OMAR: Yes. I know the term Spanglish.

Interviewer: Do you use “Spanglish”? How often do you use it? Who do you use Spanglish with?

OMAR: Yes, I use it sometimes with my friends joking around. I probably use Spanglish every day with my Hispanic friends.

Interviewer: Who do you think use “Spanglish” mostly?

OMAR: Latinos, Mexicans, we tend to use Spanglish.

Interviewer: What does English mean for you, how important is it for you?

OMAR: English is very important in the U.S.A. and around the world. It moves economies worldwide. We must know proper English to communicate with anybody from different races in the U.S.A to avoid discrimination from other native English speakers.

Interviewer: What does Spanish mean for you, how important is it for you?

OMAR: Spanish is very important to communicate here and in Latin America as well. It's our parents' language, so somehow, we need to learn it. If we lose it, it's like losing our origins and identity.

Interviewer: What does Spanglish mean for you, how important is it for you?

OMAR: Spanglish is a way of keeping Spanish alive within us. Maybe, an indirect meaning that we are Latinos/Mexicans.

Interviewer: Could you read these texts? What do you notice and think of this?

1. Hoy voy a comer birria, una chivita en un restaurante Tapatío con la segunda mejor jersey puesta en mi, EL AMERICA (Primero es la number 1, de Mi Puebla, Los Camoterros). Voy a sofocar la birria en su torta Ahogada, para k pierda el Oxygeno, VIVAN LAS AGUILAS DEL AMERICA, I BOOOO!!!!!! MI FAMILIA K LA VAN HA LAS CHIVAS!!!!!!!!!!!! Traitors!!!!!!!!

2. Checking the album....Here in NY. Primos under age already breaking the rules.....Drinking....lol

OMAR: Spanglish was used. I wrote it in Spanglish. Spanglish for me is, two flavors, mixing it with English and Spanish. Some type of new dialect among us.

Interviewer: Ok! That is all I wanted to know. Thank you for helping me.

OMAR: You're welcome.

APRENDIX E – COMPARATIVE CHART FOR PARTICIPANTS’ OPINIONS

	DAVID	TANIA	MARIA	EVA
AGE	20 years old	19 years old	27 years old	19 years old
BACKGROUND	I was born and raised in the US. I lived there for 16 years.	I have lived all my life in the USA.	I was born in Los Angeles. I lived for 11 years then I moved to Ontario California and I have been for 13 years.	I am from East Los Angeles. I was there for 3 years before I moved to Ontario.
PARENTS	Both my parents were born in Jalisco Mexico and moved into the US illegally when they were young.	My parents are from Mexico. My mother is from Puebla and my dad from Zacatecas.	My mother is from Guadalajara Mexico and my father from Puebla Mexico.	My mom is from Guadalajara and my dad from Puebla.
LANGAGUES THEY SPEAK	English and Spanish	English and Spanish	Spanish and English	Spanish and English
HOW DID THEY LEARN THEM?	I have learned English in school and I spoke Spanish at home. I speak English with my friends and Spanish with my family	-	I’m bilingual, my first language is Spanish which I learned from my parents and my second is English which I studied in school.	I have learned Spanish because my parents speak it and I learned English from school.

HAVE YOU HEARD THE TERM "SPANGLISH"?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DO YOU USE IT? AND HOW FREQUENTLY?	Yeah I use it all the time.	Yes, very often	Not every day, once a month.	Yes I do and all the time.
WHO DO YOU USE IT WITH?	Mostly with my friends, when I can't figure how to say something in Spanish or English I'll mix them up.	Just friends, sometimes with family. I try not to use it with family	Only with friends.	With family and friends.
DO YOU PREFER ONE LANGUAGE RATHER THAN THE OTHER? WHY?	No, I actually prefer Spanglish. It's an easier way of communication for me.	Spanish because it really defines me from where my origin is.	Spanish is very important because it is my Mexican roots. It means everything, I love Spanish.	Spanish means a lot to me because my parents speak it and it is what they grew up with. Talking English is important because I learned it from school. Spanglish is like both languages put together to have fun with my speaking.
GENERAL OPINION	It's a language commonly used by a lot of Mexican Americans. I like it because I feel like it helps me to communicate better.	It is not proper either you speak to them in Spanish or English but it slips sometimes. Some people will be confused. I had to read it 3 times to understand it.	It is not important I just used it for fun.	Some people do not use it and it just depends if people want to speak both or not or just talk in English or Spanish anywhere. It just depends on the person

	MIRIAM	JIMENA	ISA	OMAR
AGE	23 years old	25 years old	23 years old	I am 30 years old
BACKGROUND	I am from Tijuana, Baja California. I have lived here my entire life.	I live in Ontario California. I've been living in Ontario for 15 years.	I live in Ontario California. I've lived in this city for about 15 years.	I live in L.A. I was born and raised in Los Angeles.
PARENTS	My dad is from Zacatecas and my mom from Mexicali, but she's originally from Durango.	My father is from Ocotitlan Puebla, Mexico and my mother is from Guadalajara Jalisco.	My parents are both from Mexico.	My parents are from Mexico.
LANGAGUES THEY SPEAK	Spanish, I speak a fluent English and a little German	English and Spanish.	I speak both English and Spanish.	I speak both languages.
HOW DID THEY LEARN THEM?	I took English classes since kindergarden, but mainly living in the border, watching movies, open television	I learned them in school.	I learned Spanish at home and English in school. I believe I have a good level in English and an intermidiate	I learned Spanish from home and my parents too. I learned English in school.

	<p>channels from San Diego and hearing the radio helped me to develop my speaking. As to the German, I took a class back in college.</p>		<p>level in Spanish.</p>	
<p>HAVE YOU HEARD THE TERM "SPANGLISH"?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Yes, I have.</p>	<p>Yes. I know the term Spanglish.</p>
<p>DO YOU USE IT? AND HOW FREQUENTLY?</p>	<p>Yes, all the time specially when I want to express myself with my friends.</p>	<p>I use it often.</p>	<p>Yes, but not often.</p>	<p>Yes, I use it sometimes with my friends joking around.</p>
<p>WHO DO YOU USE IT WITH?</p>	<p>With my friends</p>	<p>–</p>	<p>I usually use it mostly at home around family or close friends.</p>	<p>Yes, I use it sometimes with my friends joking around.</p>
<p>DO YOU PREFER ONE LANGUAGE RATHER THAN THE OTHER? WHY?</p>	<p>Spanish is very important to me because is part of my life, part of the place where I live and part of my job as a journalist. English it's almost as important as Spanish</p>	<p>–</p>	<p>Spanish is just as important to me as English.</p>	<p>Spanish is very important to communicate here and in Latin America as well. It's our parents' language, so we need to learn it. If we lose it, it's like losing our origins and identity.</p>

	because living in the border implies be able to communicate in two languages.			
GENERAL OPINION	In the case of Spanglish, I guess is part of the identity of each one according to the level of the relation to cultural elements from English speaking countries.	Unfortunately, kids that come from Mexican parents as me, they are here and we end up learning both and mix words.	Spanglish is an improper way of how we mix these languages and therefore we put at risk the proper way to speak these languages for us and for our decendency. It's not as important but sometimes I feel like saying a word or words in Spanish I would best express myself to whomever I'm speaking with.	Spanglish is a way of keeping Spanish alive within us. Maybe, an indirect meaning that we are Latinos/Mexicans. Spanglish for me is two flavors, mixing English with Spanish. Some type of new dialect among us.