

SOCIOLINGUISTICS IS A LINK BETWEEN SOCIOLOGY AND LINGUISTICS.

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***Abstract:** This paper investigates introduction to sociolinguistics of the English language. The main purpose of this article is to review the scientifically important theoretical points of sociolinguistics, examines the sociolinguistic works of authors who have examined the English language.*

Keywords: Language, sociolinguistics, globalization, culture, context.

Language is a centre to social interaction in every society, regardless of location and time period. Language and social interaction have a reciprocal relationship: language shapes social interactions and social interactions shape language. Social interaction has been globalized.

Globalization has been defined in many ways, including internationalization, liberalization, universalization, Westernization, modernization and, most recently, deterritorialization, meaning an alteration of social space ‘so that space is no longer mapped in terms of territorial places, distances, or borders’ (McKay & Bokhorst-Heng, 2008: 2). They observe that many of these definitions have been recognized for decades. Two terms commonly heard today in language educators’ public and professional lives are globalization and the social turn. Both of these phenomena have had a significant impact on the field of sociolinguistics. The first has resulted in greater movement of individuals within countries and across borders motivating some to acquire new languages and identities, and leading many sociolinguists to investigate the hybridity of current language use. Globalization has also resulted in more attention being devoted to the relationship between language and power and critical approaches to language use and language learning. The second, the social

turn in the field of applied linguistics, has resulted in far more attention being given to the social aspect of language use, so that today there are a growing number of studies on the relationship between such things as language and identity, style and styling, and language and gender(Nancy. H. H. & Sandra. L. M. (2010)).

Additionally, there are theoretically two different approaches to the study of language and how it relates to society. The first is the sociology of language, or the study of the effect society has on language. The second is sociology or the study of the effect language has on society. Although the two are considered fundamentally different, various field work and studies have demonstrated they are inseparable. Culture and language constantly influence one another and in result, studying one is nearly impossible to do without learning about the other. In essence, the study of language and its relationship with culture and society is known as sociolinguistics. Although it may sound like an intimidating term that belongs in the academic realm, every language learner should have some awareness of sociolinguistics, particularly because the very act of using a language is, in fact, social.

Sociolinguistics is that branch of linguistics dealing with the influence of the society on language and vice-versa. Under this branch we deal with the problems faced in learning a language or, to say how a language is acquired and also how a language is modified according to different social circumstances. Through this we also come into contact with the traditional value of a language, which otherwise would have remained unknown to us. So, Sociolinguistics is an integral part in the study of language in common, and in the study of the impact of society over language. So, it is really important in the sphere of the study of language(Mabasan, Vol. 9 No.2, Juli—Desember2015 :66—77).

There are several researchers or linguists give the definition of sociolinguistics in different perspective. Yasemin (2013) defined sociolinguistics as the science that investigates the aims and functions of language in society. It attempts to explain how language differs from one context to another across geographical borders and how people in one context communicate with people in other contexts (e.g., non native-nonnative speakers; nonnative-native speakers; and

so on). He's prone to learn language based on the sociocultural contexts, how the learners can communicate in one context with the others.

In all these definitions, it is clear that sociolinguistics is a discipline that makes a link between sociology and linguistics. It is a branch of sociology and as a concept, it is concerned with how language use is a determinant of a given society's linguistic requirements. Every society has its linguistic codes that are acceptable for interaction (Meyerhoff, 2006). Sociolinguistics shows how groups in a given society are separated by certain social variables like ethnicity, religion, status, gender, age and level of education and how adherence to these variables is used to categorize individuals in social classes (Hudson, 1996).

The way we use language in different social contexts provides a lot of information about both how language works and the social relationships in a community. It also throws light on the way people indicate their social identity through their language. Look at the example given below which is a conversation between a husband and a wife, when their daughter is around.

Hari : Hi Dear!

Sita : Hi! You are late.

Hari : Yeah, that blasted idiot boss didn't let me come.

Sita : The baby is here.

Hari : Oh Sorry. Where is she? What social message did you get from this conversation?

Hari would not have used such strong language while talking about his boss if he knew his daughter was around. It matters who can hear us and where we are talking. The same message may be conveyed differently to different people.

When we talk of sociolinguistics, two terms catch our attention i.e. "Socio" or "pertaining to society" and "linguistics" or "pertaining to language". A layman can guess that sociolinguistics has something to do with language and society. Technically, sociolinguistics is the branch of linguistics that deals with the study of language in relation to society. Language and society are like hand and glove. They are inter related as language can't exist without society. Sociolinguistics can throw

much light both on the nature of language and the nature of society. We talk in different styles in different social contexts. Let us take an example of Hari when he talks with his boss in the office.

Hari : Good afternoon, sir.

Boss : There is a meeting at 7.00pm, I want you to be around.

Hari : Yes sir, I will surely be here.

This response reflects Hari's awareness of the social factors which influence the choice of appropriate ways of speaking in different social contexts. Sociolinguistics is concerned with the relationship between language and the context in which it is used(Sociolinguistics: A Resource Book for Students by Peter Stockwell).

Thus, a review of scientific research has shown that sociolinguistics is, first and foremost, a single indicator of how people use language to create, express and ascertain their requirements; people get together in groups and try to resist, protect, or increase.

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