

## **Dagaare-English Code Switching: An Analytical Survey**

*By Justine Bakuuro\**

*The study focuses on code-switching among panellists on radio talk shows in semi-formal conversations. The rationale behind this is basically to examine the nature of code-switching within the semi-formal setting and largely to study the structure of the code-switched utterance among educated Dagaare speakers of Northern Ghana. The analysis involves a survey of the occurrence of code-switching among educated Ghanaians within a partially formal environment, namely a radio talk show on news review. More precisely, the nature of code switching is what the study seeks to examine: the type of code switching engaged in most, the dominant code category in Dagaare-English code switching and the language which serves as the matrix language in Dagaare-English code switching. The theoretical framework that is used for the analysis is Myers-Scotton (2002)'s 4-M model.*

**Keywords:** Code-switching, semi-formal conversations, Dagaare-English code-switching, matrix language, Myers-Scotton 4-M Model.

### **Introduction**

Amuzu & Singler (2014) report that there is intense intra-sentential code-switching in West Africa. This is mainly because, as Dakubu (1997) observes, polyglottism is a major characteristic of West African cities (Amuzu & Singler, 2014). Moreover, Amuzu & Singler (2014) lament the fact that in spite of encouraging numbers of studies of CS in the region, the studies mostly involve language pairs of a majority language and a colonial language. Studies involving language pairs of a minority language and a majority language are scarce while those of a minority language and a colonial language are scarcer (Amuzu & Singler, 2014).

This study seeks to survey the occurrence of Dagaare-English code-switching as engaged in by educated native speakers of Dagaare. The term educated speakers was first used by Sey (1973).

In this study, however, Amuzu (2005a)'s definition is adopted. Amuzu (2005a) uses "educated Ghanaians" to refer to Ghanaians who have acquired at least secondary school education. In this study, all panellists including those who call into the programme have attained at least senior high school education, therefore it is appropriate to go by Amuzu(2005a)'s definition. The good mix of English and Dagaare by the in-studio panellists made it difficult for a caller who does not understand basic English to understand what is being discussed and hence try calling in.

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## Literature Review

In contrast to choosing only one code (from their repertoire) to use in an interaction, bilinguals may opt to “mix” two or more codes in the course of an interaction (Savic 1995). Several concepts have been proposed for this linguistic behavior. Agheyisi (1977), for example calls it “language interlarding” while Scotton & Ury (1977) term it “code switching.” Bokamba (1988) prefers to call it “code mixing” and Haugen (1953) calls it “integration.” However, code switching, is no doubt, the most preferred term in current sociolinguistic study (Wardhaugh 2010), hence the term used in this study

Although, Haugen (1953) is accredited for the original coinage of the term “code switching,” his definition is no longer in use. In his work, Haugen distinguished between the terms *switching*, *code switching* and *integration*. Whereas switching was used to refer to the alternate use of two languages by bilinguals, code switching referred to a linguistic situation where bilinguals introduced a single unassimilated word from one language into another by bilinguals (Haugen 1953). The third term integration was used in reference to the overlapping of two languages.

It is evident that Haugen’s definition of code switching was perhaps too simplistic, as he chose to associate code switching with only “single words”. Such a micro-view of code switching cannot adequately guide any study; for a lot of data, which deserves to be included as code-switched material may end up being overlooked. For instance, cases where speakers engage in inter-sentential switching may not end up being left out.

Different scholars have different definitions for the term “code switching.” These definitions are motivated by the approach (pragmatic or grammatical) adopted in analyzing code switched utterances. Myers-Scotton (1993a: vii), for example, defines code switching (hereafter CS) as the use of two or more languages in the same conversation, usually within the same conversational turn, or even within the same sentence of that turn.

For Bokamba (1988), code switching is the embedding of various linguistic units such as affixes and clauses from two distinct (sub) systems within the same sentence or speech event. Additionally, Myers-Scotton (1993b:3) views code switching as the selection by bilinguals/multilinguals of forms from an embedded variety (or varieties) in utterances of a matrix variety during the same conversation. Myers-Scotton (1993a) takes a pragmatic approach while Bokamba (1988) and Myers-Scotton (1993b) take a purely grammatical approach hence their different perceptions of Code Switching. This study takes a pragmatic view hence adopts Myers Scotton’s (1993a) definition of CS. To this extend, the study is fundamentally a survey of the nature of code switching in a naturally occurring environment among educated Dagaare natives.

Code-switching (CS) is appraised one of the central issues in bilingualism research; one that has received tremendous attention, and continue to excite scholars in the field (Milroy & Muysken, 1995; Thomason, 2001; Dadzie, 2004, etc). It is defined by Milroy and Muysken (1995:7) as the alternative use by bilinguals of two or more languages in the same conversation.

Thomason (2001: 133) similarly defines it as the use of material from two (or more) languages by a single speaker in the same conversation. Several manifestations of code-switching exist, such as, switching between turns of speakers; switching between utterances of one's turn; and even, switching within a single utterance. These differences have led to distinctions in descriptive terms for the phenomenon such as codeswitching, code-mixing, code alternation, borrowing, etc. The main point however is that it has been discovered that the bilingual uses his/her two codes interchangeably, sometimes moving from one to another, other times substituting words in one for another within the same speech effort (Dadzie, 2004). In this study, code-switching (CS) is used to describe any of the manifestations mentioned above without any distinction.

Interest in the study of CS began in the 1950s when scholars like Weinreich (1953) and Haugen (1953) dwelt on aspects of it in their publications (Milroy & Muysken 1995: 5, Clyne 2003: 70). The term 'code-switching' was however introduced by Gumperz (1964) for switching with a discourse function (Clyne 2003:70); but with time, it has been increasingly used for all kinds of switching (Clyne 2003: 70). According to Myers-Scotton (1993: 19), subsequent studies of CS (Gumpertz 1982, Heller 1988, Myers-Scotton 1993b) mainly focused on its social motivations.

However, it soon became apparent that intra-sentential CS is not done haphazardly, but may be structured. The search for structural constraints thus began. Notable among these researchers are, Timm (1975), Pfaff (1979), Gumperz (1982), Poplack (1981) and Myers-Scotton (1993a).

At the moment, studies of CS are generally approached from three main perspectives – Psycholinguistic, Sociolinguistic and Structural.

- Sociolinguistic studies make inquiries into the social aspects of CS. Some of the studies are Blom & Gumperz (1972), Heller (1988), Clyne (1992), Myers-Scotton (1993b), Milroy & Li (1995) and Owusu-Yeboah (2013).
- Psycholinguistic researchers are concerned with the cognitive aspects of CS. Some studies are Grosjean (1982; 1995), etc.
- Structural studies are investigations into the grammatical structure of the CSed utterances. Scholars in this field include Poplack (1980), Myers-Scotton (1993a, 2002) and, Myers-Scotton and Jake (1995). The structural perspective is dealt with in detail in the next section.

## Types of Code Switching

### *Inter-Sentential*

In inter-sentential code switching, the language switch is done at sentence boundaries—words or phrases at the beginning or end of a sentence. This type is seen most often in fluent bilingual speakers. For example: *If you are late for the job interview, foo yiir a yɛɛ (you forget it: Dagaare).*

*Intra-Sentential*

In intra-sentential code switching, the shift is done in the middle of a sentence, with no interruptions, hesitations, or pauses to indicate a shift. The speaker is usually unaware of the shift. For example: You are sleepy ana nOkuu (like a sick fowl: Dagaare), because you spend a lot of fanga (energy: Dagaare) in your bed. Different types of switches occur within the clause level and within the word level.

*Extra-Sentential or Tag Switching*

This is the switching of either a single word or a tag phrase (or both) from one language to another. This type is common in intra-sentential switches. It involves the insertion of a tag from one language into an utterance in another language. For example: "Fo kung le gonno, if you know what I mean." Another example is how Dagaare students use some boundary words like ka le (then) or tOO (well) while speaking English.

**Problem Statement**

Dagaare speakers of the Queen's language have for a long time been engaged in Dagaare-English code switching. This is easily noticed when one interacts with Dagaare English literates at various levels of education and social status. Indeed, Dakubu (1997) confirms this claim as he avers that polyglottism is a key linguistic characteristic of West African settlements, particularly cities. Similarly, Amuzu & Singler (2014) agree with Dakubu on that claim, adding that most code switching studies in West Africa always involve majority languages and a colonial. Dagaare is a minority language and its pairing with the colonial language of English makes the study all the more worthwhile.

Generally, not much linguistic exploration has been done on Dagaare as a language. Reading of available literature in Dagaare research reveals this fact and many Dagaare researchers corroborate this fact (Dakubu 1997 & 2009, Kyoore 2012, Dannabang 2011, etc).

To this end, this study will be a novelty as it will be the first recorded investigation of code switching involving Dagaare (a minority language) and the English language (a colonial, majority language).

Fundamentally, the study focuses on what characterises the process as the educated Dagaare user of English engages in Dagaare-English code switching.

**Research Questions**

1. What is the nature of the switch in code between Dagaare and English among educated Dagaabas: intra or inter-sentential?
2. Dagaare-only, English-only and Dagaare-English: Which code category dominates in conversations involving Dagaare-English code-switching among educated Dagaabas?

3. In Dagaare-English code-switched utterances, which of the two languages operates as the matrix language in the linguistic structure among educated Dagaabas?

## Methodology

Data is in the form of recorded conversations. Radio talk shows on news review forms the data for this study. Selected recordings are transcribed and used for the analysis. The quantitative method of data analysis is what is employed here as the study is a survey.

Data collection and processing is carried out in the following steps: First, five separate pre-recorded radio talk shows lasting an average of 1 hour 30 minutes each are used as primary data. Recording 1 took place on 14/01/2019 and it is 1 hour, 55 minutes, 07 seconds (1:55:07) long. Recording 2 happened on 15/01/2019 and it took 1 hour,48 minutes,04 seconds (1:48:04).Recording 3 was done on 09/01/2019,lasting 1 hour,46 minutes,00 seconds (1:46:00). Recording 4 occurred on 16/01/2019 and lasted 2 hours,4 minutes, 06 seconds (2:04:06).Recording 5 was done on 04/01/2019 and it also lasted 1 hour,36 minutes,15 seconds (1:36:15).

From these 5 recordings, 4 were selected at random and 50 sentences from each tape were selected at random jump-play intervals, giving the total of 200 sentences which are used as the primary working data for this survey. Please find attached the 200 sentences in Appendices 1,2,3 and 4 and the recordings on a CD. The CD contains the original primary data of this study. Analysis is done using tables and charts.

## Theoretical Underpinning

Aspects of Carol Myers-Scotton's (2002) 4-M model primarily underpins this research theoretically. It is a theory that attempts to catalogue the distribution of morphemes in what is called the Matrix Language Frame (MLF) model, a framework developed by Myers-Scotton (1993).This is a model which explains the distribution of linguistic structures in intra-sentential code switching using bilingual data.

The Matrix Language Framework is used in this study. It must be noted however that the morpheme distribution angle of the theory is not employed in the analysis in this study. A general survey as the study is, there isn't focus on the internal structure of the sentences parsed. The study focuses rather largely on what characterises the process as the educated Dagaare user of English engages in Dagaare-English code switching.

This theory is complemented by the Conversation Analysis theory. Conversation analysis (CA) is an approach to the study of social interaction. It embodies both verbal and non-verbal daily life social interactions. Inspired by Harold Garfinkel's ethnomethodology and Erving Goffman's conception of the interaction order, CA was developed in the late 1960s and early 1970s principally

by the sociologist Harvey Sacks and his close associates Emanuel Schegloff and Gail Jefferson.

The rudiments of analysing spontaneous conversation is employed in the parsing of sentences from the four recordings. As the conversations in these recordings are largely informal, ramifying it into coded data for the survey needs the use of techniques in CA, hence the need for it in the study.

## Analysis

### *Research Question 1*

What is the nature of the switch in code between Dagaare and English among educated Dagaabas: intra or inter-sentential?

As has already been explained in the literature above, code switching may involve one or all of intra, inter or extra-sentential code switching. Whilst intra-sentential code switching involves the introduction of a different variety of language into a matrix language at the sentence level, inter-sentential code switching deals with the switch over of language from one sentence to another either within the same sentence of more than one clause or from one sentence to another. Extra-sentential code switching deals with switch of single words or tag phrases. Since extra-sentential code switching is a form of intra-sentential code switching, only intra-sentential and inter-sentential code switching would be used in the analysis in this study.

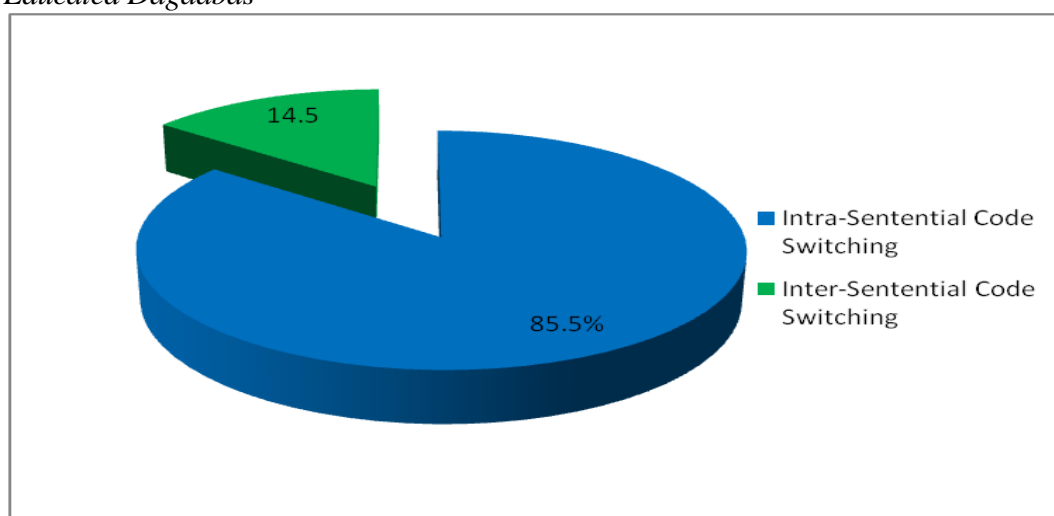
Having established the various dimensions code switching may take, may we now turn to the data under study here. This data includes Dagaare-only, English-only and Dagaare-English code classifications. To answer Research Question 1, the Dagaare-English code switched utterances will be the appropriate data to use. The distribution of sentences in the data with regards to the nature or kind of code switching that educated Dagaare natives engage in is captured in Table 1 below.

**Table 1.** *Sentence Distribution According to Type of Code Switching*

Code Switching	R1 Sentences	R2 Sentences	R3 Sentences	R4 Sentences	Total	Percentage
Intra-Sentential Code Switching	1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 34, 35, 27, 28, 29, 33, 35, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 48	3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 34, 35, 36, 39, 43, 44, 46, 47, 49, 50	2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50	1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 29, 32, 35, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 47, 48, 49, 50	118	85.5
Inter-Sentential Code Switching	36, 46	8, 18, 27, 30, 38	3, 9, 16, 17, 22, 28, 35, 36	9, 15, 31, 39, 45	20	14.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>100.00</b>

From the table above, a total of 118 sentences across the four recordings are involved in intra-sentential code switching, representing 85.5% of the total of 138 sentences involving Dagaare-English code switching used in the survey. Sixty two (62) sentences in the data are distributed between Dagaare-only and English-only sentences. That clearly indicates that educated Dagaare natives are very heavy on intra-sentential code switching when they engage in code switching generally. Only 20 sentences of the 138, representing 14.5% are involved in inter-sentential code switching. From this therefore, one could comfortably conclude that when educated Dagaabas engage in code switching, they use intra-sentential code switching generally. This is further diagrammatically represented in the Pie Chart in Figure 1 as follows.

**Figure 1.** Pie Chart Showing Nature/Kind of Code Switching Engaged in by Educated Dagaabas



### Research Question 2

Dagaare-only, English-only and Dagaare-English: Which code category dominates in Dagaare-English code-switched utterances among educated Dagaabas?

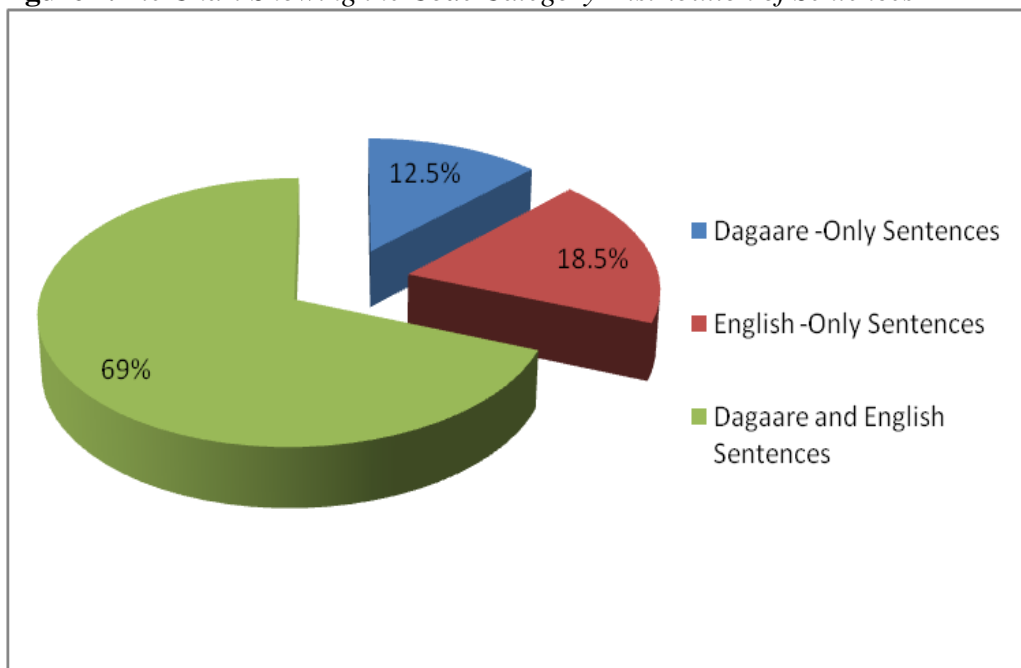
This research question surveys the balance of languages as the Dagaare bilingual embarks on informal conversation involving code switching. The data under consideration includes Dagaare-only, English-only and Dagaare-English sentences and the analysis here seeks to survey which of these categories is employed more in the code switch conversation of educated Dagaabas. See the statistical representation of this in Table 2 below.

**Table 2.** Sentence Distribution According to Code Category

	R1 Sentences	R2 Sentences	R3 Sentences	R4 Sentences	Total	Percentage
Dagaare - Only Sentences	2, 4, 31, 32, 34, 44, 47, 50	6, 22, 31, 32, 41, 45, 48	32, 45	14, 16, 24, 25, 33, 34, 36, 40	25	12.5
English - Only Sentences	5, 14, 18, 22, 24, 30, 37, 38, 40, 49	1, 2, 4, 7, 13, 17, 24, 33, 37, 40, 42	1, 11, 13, 14, 18, 34, 39, 44	2, 4, 17, 22, 23, 28, 30, 46	37	18.5
Dagaare-English Sentences	1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 35, 36, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 48	3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 43, 44, 46, 47, 49, 50	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50	1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 29, 31, 32, 35, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50	138	69
TOTAL	50	50	50	50	200	100

From the table above, it is manifestly clear that indeed, educated Dagaabas indulge heavily in code switching in semi-formal conversations. Out of the 200 total number of sentences used in the study, 138 are involved in Dagaare-English code switching whilst 62 are shared between Dagaare-only and English- only, confirming the afore-mentioned claim. This represents 69% of total number of sentences used in the survey. Emphatically therefore, it is demonstrated by these statistics that when educated Dagaabas are involved in code switching, they use more of code switched structures than mono-lingual structures. For further clarity, this statistical information is pictorially captured in the Pie Chart in Figure 2 below.

**Figure 2.** Pie Chart Showing the Code Category Distribution of Sentences





*Research Question 3*

In Dagaare-English code-switched utterances, which of the two languages operates as the matrix language in the linguistic structure among educated Dagaabas?

In 1993, Myers-Scotton proposed the Matrix Language Frame (MLF) as a model to account for the structures in intrasentential code-switching (Myers-Scotton 1993:5; 2002:12). The MLF is a —production-based model which sees CS as set by processes which operate well before the positional level at which surface orders and structures are realized (Myers-Scotton, 1993a:6). The MLF model takes its cue from psycholinguistic models of monolingual language production and processing; whose basic premise is that, production proceeds by accessing various grammatical procedures to build a sentence frame. Another premise is that a sentence is assembled incrementally, but with different procedures operating simultaneously. Motivated by these two views of language production, the MLF model has as its premise:

- In bilingual speech production, a frame also is built
- Key hierarchies in the way frame-building procedures apply have the effect of constraining selections of the languages of CS utterances (Myers-Scotton 1993a: 76)

In the light of this premise set by Myers-Scotton, the analysis in this section looks at the language that operates as the matrix language in each sentence. That is, which language forms the framework within which the other language is embedded? Table 3 below represents the statistics in the survey.

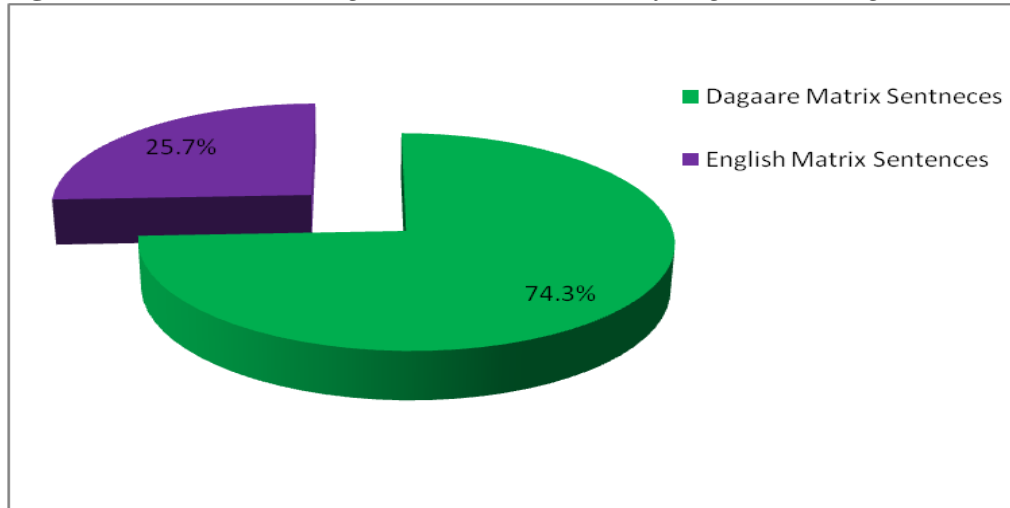
**Table 3.** *Matrix Distribution of Dagaare and English Sentences*

	R1 Sentences	R2 Sentences	R3 Sentences	R4 Sentences	Total	Percentage
Dagaare Matrix Sentences	1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 25, 27, 28, 29, 35, 39, 41, 43, 44, 45, 48	3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 20, 21, 23, 26, 28, 29, 34, 35, 36, 41, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 33, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50	1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 24, 26, 27, 29, 32, 34, 35, 37, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 49, 50	104	74.3
English Matrix Sentences	13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 26, 33, 36, 42, 46	8, 12, 18, 19, 25, 27, 30, 38, 43	2, 4, 16, 22, 26, 28, 30, 31, 35, 36	9, 20, 21, 31, 38, 48	36	25.7
TOTAL	33	32	38	37	140	100

It is abundantly clear from the statistics above that Dagaare operates as the matrix language in this survey. One hundred and four (104) out of the total of 140 sentences that involve the use of both English and Dagaare indicate that Dagaare forms the Matrix Language Framework with English as the embedded language. This figure represents 74.3% of the 140 sentences that involve the use of both languages. Only 36 out of the 140 sentences have English operating as the Matrix

Language. From this analysis therefore, may conclude that educated Dagaabas use Dagaare as the MLF when engaged in code switching. Diagrammatically, this is represented in the chart in Figure 3 below.

**Figure 3.** Pie Chart Showing the MLF Distribution of English and Dagaare

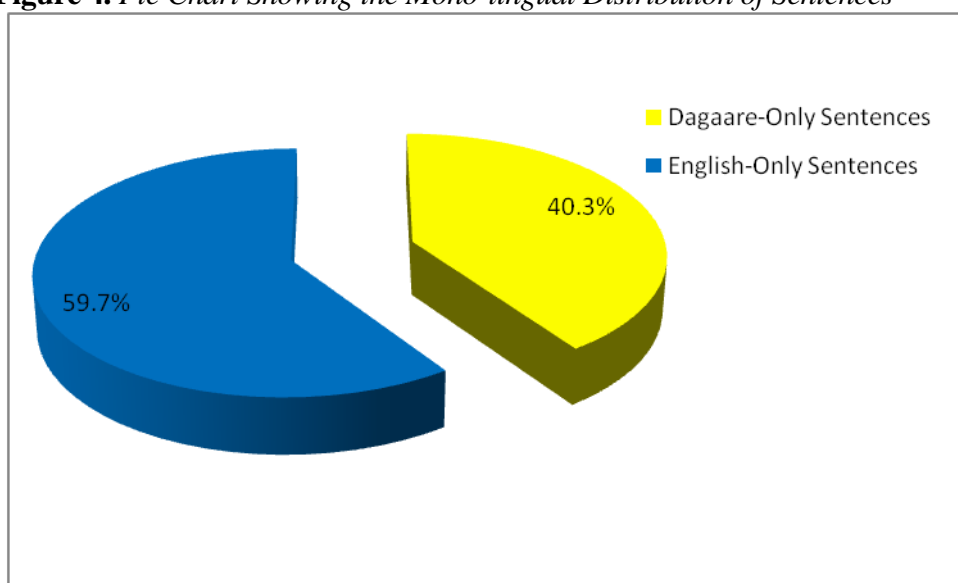


Still in support of the Matrix language distribution of sentences, the mono-lingual sentences in the data also helps. In the table below, we see the distribution of Dagaare-only and English-only sentences which gives a sense of which language the speakers were more endeared to in the conversation. See Table 4 below.

**Table 4.** Sentence Distribution of Dagaare - Only and English - Only Sentences

	R1 Sentences	R2 Sentences	R3 Sentences	R4 Sentences	Total	Percentage
Dagaare-Only Sentences	2, 4, 31, 32, 34, 44, 47, 48, 50	6, 22, 31, 32, 41, 45, 48	32, 45	14, 16, 24, 25, 33, 34, 36, 40	25	40.3
English-Only Sentences	5, 14, 18, 22, 24, 30, 37, 38, 40, 49	1, 2, 4, 7, 13, 17, 24, 33, 37, 40, 42	1, 11, 13, 14, 18, 34, 39, 44	2, 4, 17, 22, 23, 28, 30, 46	37	59.7
Total	18	18	10	16	62	100

The information in the table above is represented in the Pie Chart in Figure 4 below.

**Figure 4.** Pie Chart Showing the Mono-lingual Distribution of Sentences

As can be seen above, the English-only sentences dominate the total of 62 mono-lingual sentences with 37 sentences, representing 59.7% as against 25 Dagaare-only sentences which represent 40.3%. Clearly, the gap is not that wide and the picture becomes clearer when the statistics on mono-lingual sentences are merged with the statistics on Matrix language distribution. That is, combining the information from Table 3 and Table 4 which both seek to assert the dominance of each language in the conversation.

To this end, the statistics in tables 3 and 4 will suffice:

I.e.,  $74.3\% + 40.3\% = 114.6 \div 200\% = 0.573 \times 100 = 57.3\%$

Also;  $25.7\% + 59.7\% = 85.4 \div 200\% = 0.427 \times 100 = 42.7\%$

Therefore;

Dagaare Matrix Sentences (Table 3) = 74.3%    57.3%  
 Dagaare Only Sentences (Table 4) = 40.3%

Also; English Matrix Sentences (Table 3) = 25.7%    42.7%  
 English – Only Sentences (Table 4) = 59.7%

## Findings

Research question one seeks to find out the nature of the switch in code between Dagaare and English among educated Dagaabas; whether it is intra or inter-sentential. The analysis of data clearly reveals that there is higher intra-sentential CS (85.5%) than inter-sentential CS (14.5%) as captured in Figure 1.

Research question two also enquires about which code category dominates in Dagaare-English code-switched utterances among educated Dagaabas. The analysis shows that Dagaare-English CS dominates (69%). English-only (18.5%)

CS comes second, whilst Dagaare-only (12.5%) CS comes last in terms of dominance. Figure 2 summarises this graphically.

Finally, the research question three finds out which of the two languages operates as the matrix language in the linguistic structure among educated Dagaabas in Dagaare-English code-switched utterances. The findings show unequivocally that Dagaare operates as the Matrix language with a total percentage of 74.3% and 25.7% for English. See Figure 3 for the details.

## Conclusion

Conclusively therefore, Dagaare is the Matrix Language Framework (MLF) in this study with an overall total of 57.3% matrixity over English with 42.7%. The difference is 14.6% and that indicates that the matrixity of Dagaare over English in this survey is reasonably substantial. It is also proper to conclude from the analysis that Dagaare-English code-switching is the dominant code category among educated Dagaabas who engage in code switching. All in all, in code-switched utterances among educated Dagaabas, there is a very high intra-sentential code switching as Dagaare-English code switch dominates with Dagaare being the Matrix language.

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## Appendices

### Appendix 1. Sentences Transcribed From RECORDING 1 (1:55:07 HOURS)

1. A station nga la gyie teng dang kongbang disappoint e gyaa.
2. Era yela ang na veng k'i gara nimitoori.
3. Ta di assumptions a di eng e gyung.
4. TCC segha a seseo ngmankuori nga.
5. The dial is 105.5 and the station is MAK Fm.
6. Gaa Radio station gyaa ang be te Wa Naa paalong kye.
7. Maa e menga a downloadi ana application nga.
8. A scratch card biebe eng na bang da.
9. Maa e menga a gaa ana category ne.
10. Ka enang wa selecti Ida Nakaar,k'I diu vote.
11. Ka enang buora k'i voti ku mma Ida,diu vote.
12. Te na ku eng a list.
13. Gaa google play store.
14. I called Free SHS secretariat.
15. A ena me ona be pay heed to that a.
16. Two of a bibiir be tuo enrol.
17. A school account was given for them to pay a libie inside.
18. The secretariat was called again.
19. Maurice,according to NASSOBA,on these grounds na so Rev. Bro. Naa is facing the punishment.
20. I think be na enne later admission.
21. I think a school account was given for them to pay a libie in.
22. He was only able to provide a phone number.
23. According to a regional minister be dang na boOle a regional director.
24. I'm trying to read that portion.
25. O be tuo ko te any answer e.
26. On the grounds that o ba bang a act, yes there is no problem.
27. Duoho ang yire GES headquarters la bila.
28. One person yela la kaba gyaa gyæora.
29. O nyiibu ee very difficult.
30. Ida,we want to hear from the horse's own mouth.
31. O daa eri a ero tebetebe le.
32. Te ba bang buo ang yela yelmenga.
33. I think we will have to go and learn about a act nga.
34. Be ko yel yele ko fo e.
35. Te na nyee a story nga baahaa.
36. N yel ka we don't condone wrongdoing.
37. But he came to talk to us.
38. He was virtually in tears.
39. Regional minister ta me ere a le e.
40. He should have spared us all those details.
41. O le te be a Ghana ka by this time te be nyong e?
42. Ana complainant nga, o meng ee a citizen of United Arab Emirate.
43. O te dube ee UAE nee kanga.
44. Ona bie Dubai oo.
45. O yelyeng ka ona file e suit.
46. Twenty eight against fifty one,buong e gyamaa?
47. Be na veng na a dCC nga kul wa.
48. Aai,o ba tare idea.
49. According to sources,she was murdered.
50. Tane na be wobr yangne te nimie poC.

**Appendix 2. Sentences Transcribed From RECORDING 2 (1:48:04 HOURS)**

1. I used that phone.
2. Did you use Motorola?.
3. N kyaa kpe paa te select.
4. Vodafone better sit up.
5. Te be none a nonsense ne be na ere kore te a.
6. Ka ba te nyee, Ida, kuo sasaalong o engang.
7. I mentioned sperms.
8. A yinee wo ana poga ne, there was something wrong somewhere.
9. Be nyee ne a cut on a right brow of a po᠎g.
10. Ngmen na a nibe tuo get access to a yir?
11. Maurice, te be e soothsayers e.
12. In the process of a struggling, be kyaa k'oo a cut.
13. A similar thing has happened with JB Danquah.
14. ekye a houseboy gan a be wone a gidigidi anga za na ere a?
15. O nuu mi po᠎ ne a crime nga po᠎.
16. But as a houseboy, o ko tuo gur a le e.
17. Maurice, everything is possible.
18. My brother and the wife were in the room, be be bang nea e.
19. How will you kyiri?
20. Ba murder e niba a pare JB Danquah.
21. Be rape o na e le ko yang po᠎.
22. Nensaale be eme bo᠎ oo.
23. A le be na mi handle a murder cases a Ghana ka be ee.
24. Maurice, it is sad!
25. Ghana government buorang k'o piili processes.
26. So bele bewa agree boonu be na e o?
27. O yel ka he is not going down alone.
28. O tee be naa tuo na protect o.
29. Maurice, a na surprise ne na.
30. According to n ba Adams Bona, o yelyeng ka NAM1 can be tried in absentia.
31. Kanga gyaa ba nyira libiri beng.
32. Ba gaa te gyaali.
33. They should stop that hypocrisy.
34. Evidence ba kyibe.
35. A mang gyeng ka probe.
36. Probe gyaa ba kyebe.
37. There is not going to be any probe.
38. Anas video ne ong wa e ne is a test case.
39. Evidence kyibe.
40. I'm just asking a harmless question.
41. Nee gyaa bie Ghana kyeng.
42. Who is NAM1?
43. Confidence trickster nu.
44. Ida bo᠎ree Ghc 300.00.
45. Ida, a yeli nga te yelang.
46. A yinee wo two-party system teng tare Ghana kyeng.
47. A tarere sori k'aba tare constituency offices.
48. NDC ane NPP yon na te ter a Ghana bi?
49. O be ter office e?
50. Yeng ka grandma office be?



**Appendix 3. Sentences Transcribed From RECORDING 3 (1:46:00 HOURS)**

1. It's a dicey issue.
2. Will we get a te police officers ee?
3. So Maurice,a yele anga mene taabe me wa ena baare we hear only one side of the story.
4. That innocent teacher be na shoot a.
5. A libie be na te buor as Ghanaians.
6. A libiiri ko le toO de a life wane we.
7. Ba mang ohee niba te eng Police service.
8. O background ,ba ba checkira.
9. E toro mang bameng ka this is a criminal.
10. Police service be na a sob na kyen te reform oo.
11. Their jobs are at stake.
12. Be ko toO yel a be menga story e.
13. So Maurice,these are some of the things.
14. There are certain basic things.
15. Be mene en soo dumb.
16. A police officers yelyeng ka they found stray bullets.
17. As a human institution, te ko toO nye a le e.
18. They should make them independent.
19. Politicians lebe a mi de be yang.
20. Tome za teri hazards.
21. A traffic incident nga n na wa cite a be e mistake e.
22. Granted that a nibe enne armed robbers,were they supposed to kill?
23. Ba toma ne puong ba taree rules and regulations.
24. Ba na bang ngmeee nee ghere kye k'o nang open fire.
25. A first time be ni anga a yele nga na e oo.
26. Similar things be happine here in Wa e?
27. A yele is that,a nibe be nga taabe be na nyOg boonu be ibe?
28. A headmaster a ku a Nandom SHS,Mr. Joachim, has been interdicted.
29. Ba seo ye gbangu a ku a regional director.
30. Headmaster of SHS,k'o leo gaa te teach basic school.
31. Ana illegal charges of fees nga downgradee a free SHS.
32. Tung faare la ong tung.
33. O benefitree yire Free SHS.
34. But it won't affect your salary.
35. I don't think a report yela whether they are going to take the same salary or not.
36. Brother Joachim ne a o taa ne they will still teach.
37. N ba yel k'o ba e teacher.
38. Ba kong gaa a classroom.
39. What will you recommend?
40. Maa ba bang a GES Code of Ethics.
41. Ka nee kanga tung criminality kye e free.
42. Be kyOle na free.
43. Rev. Brother Naa ne a o nibe be nga babe e lucky e
44. You think GES didn't give them a fair hearing?
45. A erang toro.
46. K'o te teachire kye deera ba salary.
47. Ka this parliament is not doing bila ne ang seng ne.
48. Ana substandard yela ne bang yela ne,wala eng nye a puo?
49. Be mene mi kyen na te ta a grounds and tables turn.
50. Even a te namine mi lobby na.

**Appendix 4. Sentences Transcribed From RECORDING 4 (2:04:06 HOURS)**

1. Neem ne na ere ne education on this.
2. Ida,you can say things oo.
3. Veng a fo text messages a zOre waar.
4. Issues were raised regarding the Oti region.
5. A be yi kon ku a governmenti.
6. Te Ghana constitution die sikpiengaa kanga a ko president.
7. N ba Nana da gaa la nansaari tengε ka neε kanga te approach oo.
8. Te zaa Dagaaba tradition la.
9. Ka foo yel ka boundaries don't mean anything you are not being sincere.
10. Anang so bang te de colours waana neng.
11. Te ten regions teng tare a Ghana puong,wala teng kyene nea?
12. Politicians mang taa la sikpiengaa.
13. Ka foo kaa te regions,wala ang kyene?
14. Ida,a yele nga mine mang ee nimiri baalong.
15. We cannot also deny that zie yufo ko toO wa a zie.
16. Fo mang gaa tengε kanga ka koOng ba kyibe.
17. And yet we want to buy drones.
18. Ida,nye te drones yeltare nga fo nang waneng,wala an na bang tung a sung a paaloo?
19. A zie ba e zie plane ang na bang wa sigi.
20. They didn't do any pieroo.
21. Deputy minister ee press conference.
22. The RTI bill is still there.
23. We love our political parties,we love our people.
24. Nye farmers day ving nang da yi kyaare Ghana.
25. A yaga zaa ba mang ang toO peli a ku noba.
26. Sometimes, a plans mang ying.
27. Today,ka banang la noba gba ang mang wa be kye a ton ate asibitiring.
28. But we are going beyond aid!
29. Be dash te ne libie we.
30. You have to do things the radical way.
31. Because he is not a native of the UWR ,te kong sage.
32. Most of these youth na mi ere a le, be mi bang ne gan.
33. Fo bang fo yideme nang be ziiri a tona toma?
34. A niba neng ba zu mang le wa call a police a yel ka ba bari ba.
35. A nobie ne na feedire fo,fo be dune a e.
36. Tung faa tungbo mang nomang.
37. Veng a fo text messages a zOre kpier te.
38. Government announce na ε te ber galamsay.
39. They are ever ready because kOn kpe be na.
40. Aisha Chang bii ke Aisha Hung nea le.
41. Be yel ke o laa piili a illegal mining.
42. K'o soba da mang bang safety yong gba,a danaa mang seeng.
43. Government yel k'o na de be na kyen ne University of Mines,Tarkwa.
44. Bamine 'class notri' la kye bana la a leaders.
45. Be na wana awa speak big English.
46. They use drones in fighting it already.
47. Ba ba toOng a honour a invitation.
48. If you can't trust your Naa,then you can't trust any leader again.
49. Te wideeriba ne mang boOrang ka cooperate entities nyere tOna gang a yideme menga.
50. Azuma Resources boOrang ka ba wuli ka ba gangeε Upper West Region gyaa gbuli.

**Appendix 5. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS**

Δ/a = Dagaare word (the), pronounced like the English vowel 12 [ʌ].  
R1 =Recording 1  
R2 =Recording 2  
R3 =Recording 3  
R4 =Recording 4  
CS=Code switching  
CSed=Code Switched

**Appendix 6. Original Recording of Five (5) Conversations**

NB: Please find attached to this work, the original audio recordings of five Radio Talk Show programmes from which the 200 sentences were transcribed and used for this survey. The dialects of Dagaare in these recordings are Waalee, Nandomee and Jirbalee (Wa Dagaare, Nandom Dagaare & Jirapa Dagaare).

