ABSTRACT

Desnia S, Riris 2014. Code Switching in Social Media *Twitter*.A Thesis.Faculty of Languages and Arts.State University of Medan.

The study deals with the types of code switching and reasons why people switch their language in social media *Twitter*. The objectives of study are to find out contextual type and the grammatical type of code-switching which is mostly used in social media *Twitter*and to explain audience's reasons switch the code in social media *Twitter*.The research conducted by using descriptive qualitative design. The primary data collected by *tweets* from the timelines of *Twitter* users, the secondary data were the questionnairesto collect information about audiences's reason switch the code on *Twitter*.Theresultshowed thatthe dominant type of grammatical types that used by the user is Inter sentential code switching, then it is followed by tag code switching type and intra sentential code switching. The dominant type of contextual types that used by the user is metaphorical code switching and it is followed by situational code switching.There are eight reasons why people switch the code in the social media *Twitter*, the most commonreasons for people switch the languange is due to the lack of equivalent lexicon in the languanges. It is because of real lexical need.