An Analysis of the Function of Code-Switching to Construct Identity in the Television Series *Escape From the Trilateral Slopes* From the Perspective of Figure-Ground Theory

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Abstract

Code-switching refers to the phenomenon whereby the two parties to a dialogue use different linguistic variants to communicate in the same conversation. It is not only a linguistic phenomenon but also a social phenomenon. Members of society have many identities in their social lives, and their identities can be constructed and perceived by two or more parties in a dialogue through their interactions and social behavior in conversation, or as a result of participants' orientations and preferences. This paper takes the television series Escape From the Trilateral Slopes as the material to explore the identity construction function of code-switching from the perspective of cognitive linguistics. It is found that the characters in this drama mainly use code-switching to highlight the cultural differences between different languages and achieve the following three types of identity construction: 1) shaping the characters' default identity image; 2) constructing the characters' identity of power; and 3) constructing an equivalent identity by narrowing the psychological distance between the two sides of the dialogue.

Keywords: code-switching, identity construction, power relations, cognitive linguistics

1. Introduction

In verbal communication, the study of language and identity has been the focus of linguistic and interdisciplinary research because of the close relationship between language and culture and the constructive role that language choice plays in identity and interpersonal relationships. Chen Xinren(2013) suggests that identity research should not only focus on the relationship between discourse and identity, but also pay attention to what communicative effects communicators convey through the choice and construction of identities, and how the choice and construction of specific identities affect interpersonal relationships between communicators. As a new research field, cognitive sociolinguistics combines linguistic, social and cognitive factors to better explain various linguistic phenomena from multiple perspectives than traditional cognitive linguistics and sociolinguistics. Identity is not only a product of social practice but also a result of language choice, at the same time code-switching by communicators is in fact a way of constructing their own identity through language choice to achieve different communicative goals. Therefore, it is necessary to examine the role of language and language strategy in the construction of identity from this perspective.

Escape From the Trilateral Slopes, a television series which started airing in the summer vacation of 2024, has seen its ratings skyrocket due to its thrilling plot. Based on Laos, Myanmar, and Thailand, the play is set in a fictional exotic world, Sanbianpo, where warlords are at war, ethnicities and language usage is mixed. The protagonist, Shen Xing, is a green hand from China who has just stepped into society, embarking on a survival adventure as he mistakenly enters this complex world. In the process of searching for his uncle, he meets the mysterious mogul, Uncle Cai, and is forced to be involved in the interests of multiple forces in the game, through life and death tests and adventures to survive. The default identities of the protagonists in the series are divided into six main categories, namely Ethnic-Chinese Boss, Indigenous Boss and Chinese Boss, as well as Ethnic-Chinese Subordinate, Indigenous Subordinate and Chinese Subordinate. Due to the exotic setting, the characters engage in frequent code-switching in the dialogue lines of the play. Therefore, the play is an excellent choice for exploring code-switching and identity construction.

Therefore, this paper will explore the identity construction function of code-switching from the perspective of cognitive linguistics, based on the figure-ground theory, answering the following questions:

1) What kind of identity does code-switching construct for the communicating parties in communication?

2) What is the cognitive mechanism by which code-switching produces the identity construction function?

2. Research Status of Code-Switching

Since the 70s of the 20th century to the present day, there are four main directions in the study of code-switching in foreign study, namely, syntax, psycholinguistics, conversation analysis, and sociolinguistics (He&Yu ,2001). Domestic code-switching research also involves the above directions (Li Peng ,2016), but the construction of the theoretical system is relatively weak. The common features of domestic foreign language code-switching studies are that they are mostly based on bilingual people, with relatively few cases of multilingualism or multi-dialect; and they are mainly based on empirical methods, obtaining the relevant corpus through interviews, experiments, questionnaires and so on. Organizing researches on code-switching help us to clarify the definition of code-switching and its current classification.

Syntax studies, represented by Poplack, Gumperz, Clyne and others abroad, focus on the specific restrictions imposed on code-switching. Such limitations mainly come from the grammatical systems of the languages involved in the conversion , lacking of universality (Yu 2000, Chen 2006). For example, Clyne (1987), who interviewed and taped German-English bilinguals and Dutch-English bilinguals, argues that code-switching itself, and its limitations in terms of structural integrity, free morphemes, syntax, etc., are based on the surface-structure of the sentence. At least for bilinguals, there are no language-specific constraints on code-switching. In China, there is a tendency to summarise the grammatical-structural features of the fragments in which code-switching occurs rather than the constraints, e.g. Yang (1992:5) points out that code-switching occurs in written language most of the time in the syntactic structure of the mother tongue, and in a few cases in the syntactic structure of the foreign language in its entirety, and that the transitions of the individual words are basically pragmatic. Psycholinguistic research literature is relatively scarce, and its basic task is to reveal "the brain activity state (mind)%g of bilinguals when they perform apparent code-switching behaviours" (David Li, 1996). The theory of communicative accommodation, led by Giles, is an important theory in this field. The theory suggests that many linguistic habits of communicators, including verbal pronunciation, vocabulary choice, etc., are adjusted by their own mental disposition towards the listener (2016:2). Using Belyayeva's Modelof Conceptual Structure Mapping, Tsuba Dongling (2000) experimentally proves that code-switching arises as a result of the speaker's failure to find certain expressions in the target language in time, and is a reflection of the bilingual's It is a reflection of bilinguals' compensatory expressive strategies. Conversation analysis focuses on the sequential study of conversational behaviour, and pays attention to the interactions between turn-taking, so it may be more accurate in describing linguistic phenomena, but its explanatory power is relatively weak (He, N., Yu, G. 2001). Sociolinguistic studies are the most closely related to pragmatics among the above directions. For example, Bentahila (1983) found that Moroccans with knowledge of Arabic and French constantly code-switched despite knowing the appropriate words in both languages, because bilinguals felt more comfortable using or extracting words from one of the languages.

3. Theoretical Basis

3.1 The Definition of Code-Switching

Code-switching is the phenomenon whereby a person switches from one language or dialect to another during communication. This phenomenon usually occurs in multilingual or multi-dialect environments, where people may choose to use different language varieties depending on the context 、intention 、partner、topic or emotional needs of a communication act. Code-switching can be intentional or unintentional. Intentional code-switching may be used to emphasize a point, express a particular emotion or identity, while unintentional code-switching may be due to linguistic conventions or limitations in language proficiency.

Therefore code-switching is an important topic in linguistic and sociological research because it involves many aspects of language use, social identity, cultural identity, and language policy. In terms of code-switching foreign scholar Myers-Scotton(1993) thinks that code-switching is a phenomenon in which two or even more language variants are used by the communicating parties in the same conversation. Gumberts（1982）also defined it and classified it into situational code-switching and metaphorical code-switching from the perspective of sociolinguistic. In short, the essence of code-switching is the coexistence of two or more languages or language varieties in the same context, and the achievement of a certain communicative purpose through code-switching from one code to another in the process of conversation.

3.2 The Definition of the Identity Construction

Identity construction is a central theme of interactional sociolinguistics. Interactional sociolinguistic argues that identity is no longer a fixed identity of the language user according to the variationist sociolinguistics, but a dynamic concept that is constructed by interacting parties through a variety of interactional means and resources,

as well as negotiating meanings in the process.（Wu Dongying& Li Chaoyuan& Feng Jieyun, 2016）This theoretical perspective primarily examines how code-switching as a conversational strategy constructs speaker identity along with verbal and non-verbal contextualising signals. This theoretical perspective mainly examines how code-switching as a conversational strategy interacts with verbal and non-verbal contextualising cues to construct speakers' identities, and emphasizes the " interactivity" of communicators in the identity construction process.

However, the cognitive mechanisms and operations of code-switching in relation to identity construction and interpersonal meaning-making have not been involved, so it is necessary to use cognitive factors in cognitive linguistics to explain the connection.so it is necessary to use cognitive factors in cognitive linguistics to explain the connection between them.

3.3 The Figure-Ground Theory and Code-Switching

Nowadays cognitive linguistics studies are dominated by three views: the experiential view, the prominence view, and the attentive view (Ungerer & Schmid, 2001). The experiential view is that the language user's depiction of an object is often informed by his or her own experience; the prominence view is that the choice and arrangement of information in the language structure is determined by the degree of salience of the information; and the attentive view is that language expression reflects the portion of the event that attracts the language user's attention. (Wu , 2011) The concept of prominence is derived from Gestalt Consciousness, a field of research referring to musicology. The Danish scientist Rubin discovered that people organize the visual and auditory information received by the brain based on the degree of prominence of the incoming cognitive units, also known as Gestalt psychology. The central tenet of this view is the distinction between figure and ground.

Figure is the part of a cognitive concept which stands out, i.e., the part that attracts attention; ground is the part that serves to set off the figure. When looking at objects around us, such as a figure in a blackboard, we usually see the figure as a raised color and the blackboard as the background. Similarly, when we listen to a song, we can easily distinguish between the singer's voice and the orchestra's accompaniment, and perceive the former as prominent one above the background of the latter (Blue, 2001). Cognitive linguists are concerned with the cognitive factors behind the language that influence our choice of figure: our choice of figure is based on the characteristics of the perceiving subject. The use of the figure-ground principle in linguistics studies is mainly in the areas of lexical analysis of prepositions and syntactic structure analysis. Cognitive linguist Talmy uses the figure-ground principle to explain spatial relations, including orientation and displacement, in natural language (Wu, 2011). The relationship between figure and ground can be thought of as a relation of orientation, since orientation and displacement are always represented by prepositions. The meaning of prepositions is recognized by language scholars as a figure-ground relationship. For example, in the sentence " *The pen lay on the table.*" the preposition *on* shows the relationship of position between the figure *pen* and the ground *table*; the preposition *off* in the sentence *" The pen fell off the table."* reflects the change in the displacement of the figure *pen* relative to the ground *table* (Zhang, 2011). Locative prepositions such as *over*, *under*, *in*, *front*, and displacement prepositions such as *along, across, through* reflect the prominence view.

Figure-ground principle can be used to explain not only the meaning of the subjunctive, but also the way the sentence is structured or combined. The concept of prominence suggests that the choice of the subject of a sentence depends on the salience of the elements in the situation described by the sentence (Ungerer & Schmid, 2001). For example, the main English sentence structure S(subject)+P(predicate)+O(object) reflects the figure-ground distinction: generally speaking, in a simple sentence, the subject is usually located at the beginning of the sentence, which corresponds to the prominence, while the object is located at the end of the sentence, which corresponds to the ground, and the predicate verb is in between, marking the figure and the ground. The sentence structure is usually as*" The mug is on the table." , " The table is under the mug.*", and *" The mug is under the table."* are a little strange when we try to describe the situation where the water cup is placed on the table.(Lan Chun, 2001). Langacker also introduces the concept of trajector-landmark for the selection of the subject and object of a sentence, which makes the figure-ground principle even more explanatory. The trajector is equivalent to the figure, while the landmark is equivalent to the ground. The choice of subject and object is fundamentally determined by the speaker's subjective choice of figure and ground. The figure-ground principle can also be expressed in the form of main and subordinate clauses in complex sentences, in keeping with the cognitive order in which people move from the concrete to the abstract. According to cognitive linguists, events in subordinate clauses are often the cause or premise of events in main clauses, so subordinate clauses correspond to the context and main clauses correspond to the focus.

4. Data Selection and Collection

The language materials of this paper are selected from the lines and dialogues of main characters from the first to the twelfth episode of the TV series *Escape From the Trilateral Slopes*. Because the plot involves a large number of characters and the relationship between them is complicated, this paper mainly selects the lines and dialogues about the three main characters, Shen Xing, Uncle Cui and Ai Suo. The lines and dialogues are formed into a text through transcription and then analyzed.

5. Code-switching and Identity Construction in Escape From the Trilateral Slopes

Social constructionism believes that identity is no longer seen as merely reproduced in discourse, but as enacted and embodied through a variety of linguistic or non-linguistic means. They usually focus on how people use linguistic strategies to communicate and construct identity. As an effective communication strategy, code-switching is widely used by communicators to construct different identities. Since identity is given to people by society, identity relationship is also a social relationship between the two parties. Gregory and Carrol (1978) argue that language is used not only to refer to things or express thoughts, but also to convey relationships between interlocutors. A change in code frames social relations by changing the amount of power and solidarity. In verbal communication, identity is a key factor. According to socio-cognitive linguistics, people choose language varieties according to the specific social context, and the purpose of choosing these language varieties is, firstly, to show social identity; secondly, to make communication between the two parties more harmonious. Through screening and analyzing, the three protagonists of *Escape From the Trilateral Slopes* construct two kinds of identities through code-switching in communication, the first is the construction of power identities, and the second is the construction of equivalent identities.

Extract 1

Shen: Uncle, I've gotten all the required licenses. I can drive any vehicle here, even an excavator.
Uncle: I'm asking you who told you to come!

Shen: I'll be twenty-two in a couple of days. I need to find a job.

Uncle: Didn't I tell you? You should aim for the college upgrade exam, try to get into university.

Shen: Uncle, I'm just not cut out for studying. Spending money on my education would be a waste.

Uncle: That's still better than going abroad for labor work!

Shen: I think working abroad is fine. A job's a job—what's the difference between high and low?
Uncle: What the hell do you know!
Shen: Uncle, I've thought about it. You barely make it home a few times a year. Me being here saves you the trouble. We can reunite here—this can be our home. Isn't that great?
Uncle: *Sighs*
Uncle: *Angrily* Tell me, was that little entertainment den fun?

Shen: It was just alright.

Uncle: You two treat everything I say like it's nothing.

Shen: Uncle, it's not his fault. I was the one who wanted to go out and have fun. I just got here—I wanted to see what it's like.

Uncle: Do you have any idea what kind of place this is? In Sanbianpo, the local factions have more power than the law. If something really goes wrong, bribing the police with gold bars won't even help. Do you know how many Chinese go missing here every year? How many are ever found?

Shen: Alright, alright, enough, Uncle. I get it. I won't go out for fun anymore.

Uncle: If you dare sneak out again, I'll send you back immediately.

Shen: But Uncle, aren't you asking me to haul construction materials? How can I do that without going out?

Uncle: *Angrily*

As the main character of this play, Shen Xing is a young man who came to Sanbianpo from China and wants to help his uncle to run the construction site —— Jiandong together. When he first met his uncle at the construction site, Shen Xing often used the referent 你 to refer to his uncle. However, when Shen Xing sneaked out to play and was discovered by his uncle, Shen Xing immediately changed the referent 你 to the more formal and polite referent form 您. In extract 1, Shen Xing uses the ordinary term 你 which shows that Shen Xing and his uncle weaken the power relationship between the elder and the junior in the communication in this scene, showing that

the two parties in the communication are the ordinary kinship relationship between the uncle and the nephew. In Example 2, because Shen Xing makes a mistake and is afraid of being scolded by his uncle as an elder, he uses the relatively more polite and formal referent 您, which shows that Shen Xing and his uncle have strengthened the power relationship between elders and juniors in the communication of this scene, which not only affirms the kinship relationship between uncle and nephew on both sides, but also highlights that uncle, as an elder, has the right to criticize and educate the nephew.

Extract 2

Shen: Good wishes for you! I'm a friend of Sangkhom, helping him build a house at Xiaomonong. The Xinhai Hotel was my project. (In Bormo language)

Ang: How's my whiskey? (In Bormo language)

Shen: Good stuff, really good. (In Bormo language)

Ang: Your Bormo is not bad.

Shen: Ah, you speak Chinese.

Ang: Come with me. (In Bormo language)

Ang: I want to add a small workshop on this lot—nothing too big. Take a look and see how to do it. Sangkhom says you're reliable. I trust him, so I trust you. The cost isn't an issue; I only have one requirement: fast. One month, ideally. (In Bormo language)

Shen: That's a pretty tight deadline. Might not be possible. (In Bormo language)

Ang: Only one month. That's why I went with the Chinese. "China Speed," right? (In Bormo language)

Shen: State-owned construction teams might manage it, but I'm just a small private crew. (In Bormo language)

Ang: One month. If you can't, forget it. (In Bormo language)

The dialogue in extract 2 takes place when Shen Xing goes with his uncle Shen Jiandong to talk business with Aung Tun, a local of Sanbianpo. Aung Tun and Shen Jiandong come from different countries, and in this business negotiation, both sides start the conversation in Mo language instead of Chinese. Shen Jiandong is willing to give up his mother tongue and talk in Ang Tun's mother tongue for the sake of the smooth running of the project. This shows that in this communication activity, the relationship of Shen Jiandong and Aung Tun is the employment relationship, at the same time Aung Tun occupies the upper status of the power relationship at the beginning. However, after a brief familiarization and understanding between the two communicators, Aung Tun complimented Shen Jiandong in Chinese for speaking Mo language very well. This is also the first code-switching that happened in this conversation. Aung Tun's use of Chinese shows that he has similarities with the other party, or at least that Aung Tun himself knows something about China. This shows that Aung Tun highlights his similarities with the other party in order to bring about this co-operation and seeks the identity of both communicators. By following the language used with the other party to choose the language he uses in this communicative activity, Shen Jiandong demonstrates a tendency to conform to the other party, lowering his own power as the employed in this conversation and raising the other party's position of power as the employer.

Extract 3

Chai: This cup of tea must be drunk sooner or later.

Tea: You kidnapped my son—all for this cold chain logistics route, is that it?

Chai: When you're in this line of work, you deal with all kinds of people and solve all kinds of problems. I won't go into the details. Just agree, and I'll return your son safely to the Jinzhu Sand Yard. How about that?

Tea: *Nervously* What are you doing? Shut it off now!

Shen: Boss Tesa, see that spice stall? The owner's leg was crippled when your son hit her. She told me herself that if the police hadn't shown up in time that day, the whole street would have beaten your son to death right then and there.

Tea: *Pleadingly* Uncle Chai, I was wrong. Please, shut it off now.

Chai: I'm just asking you to share one logistics route. Why act like I'm cutting flesh from your body? Come on—say it.

Tea: *Kneels down* This business… I'm just a front. The real owner isn't me. Pressuring me is useless. (In local dialect)

Chai: Get up, get up, get up. So you're the white glove, huh? Chapa is the real boss behind it. Well, no matter. I'll take you to meet another boss.

Extract 3 takes place in the context of Uncle Cai kidnapping Tisa's son to threaten Tisa into revealing who is behind him. At the beginning of the conversation, Tisa thinks that his son's life is not in danger, but later in the conversation, Tisa understands that his son's life is in the hands of Uncle Cui. Therefore, he used the honorific vocative for Uncle Cai, instead of the previous simple referent term 你, to elevate the other party's position as a powerful person who could control his son's life, and to lower his own weak position as a passive party, in order to gain sympathy. Tisa then converts Mandarin into a dialect. If the speaker reveals his social identity, the listener, if he comes from the same region, will naturally feel that there is another level of commonality between them beyond the superficial stage identity, and under the psychological effect of "similarity attraction", he will have a sense of affinity towards the speaker, which will inadvertently narrow the psychological distance between the two parties. Tisa uses dialect to establish the equivalence of their identities and seeks a similar relationship with Uncle Cai in order to obtain his help.

According to Grice (1973), whether a speaker adopts a convergent or divergent strategy in communication depends on whether his or her social motivation is to please the other person or to separate himself or herself from the addressee. It can be seen that speech accommodation strategy is essentially a model of code choice as marked choice of description. Convergence strategy is to highlight the similarities between the communicating parties so as to bring them closer to each other; divergence strategy is to highlight the differences between the communicating parties so as to bring them farther away from each other. Whether it is a power identity or an equivalent identity, it is constructed by both parties using the convergence or divergence strategy according to the purpose of communication (to bring them closer or farther away from each other socially).

6. Cognitive Mechanism of Code-Switching

In cognitive linguistics, figure-ground theory is based on the principle of prominence, which is essentially a cognitive phenomenon with interactive sociolinguistic significance, and is a way for communicators to construct identity and express interpersonal meaning. The figure is cognitively salient, it is more likely to attract people's attention, while the ground is less salient than figure and can be considered as a reference for our cognitive perception of figure. According to Myers-Scotton's Matrix Language Frame Model, she classifies the two languages involved in code-switching as matrix language and embedded language, and believes that the relationship between the two can be explained in terms of figure-ground theory, whereby the embedded language as a figure, highlights in the matrix language.(Myerg,1998)

As mentioned earlier, similar codes tend to bring the social distance between the two communicators closer; different codes tend to bring the social distance between the two parties farther away. However, the code-switching and identity construction of both communicators are dynamic. Different codes can easily be highlighted from the same code as embedded language, but how can similar codes be highlighted from different codes as embedded language to bring them closer socially?

In the book An Introduction to Cognitive Linguistics, Schmid proposed two kinds of cognitive processes of prominence. He assumes that a complex cognitive unit has been highlighted, consisting of three individuals belonging in some way to a common relation. This cognitive unit is illustrated against Figure 1, where figure (a), illustrates this cognitive unit (the individuals are represented by small circles and the co-classification relationships are represented by short lines connecting them).
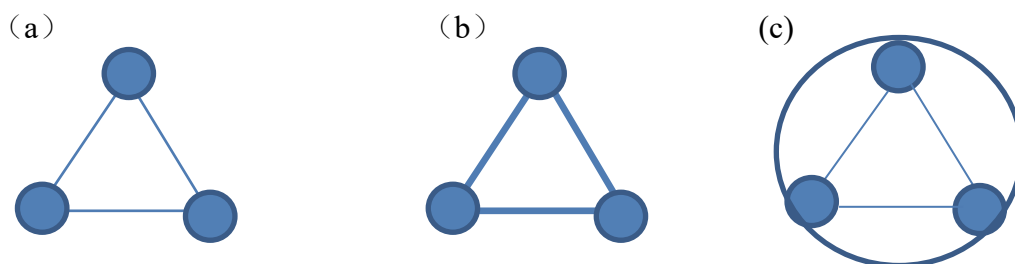
（a）   （b）   (c)

Figure 1. Profiling options for the cognitive unit *Group* (adapted from Langacker 1987b:69)

Figures (b) and (c) represent two ways in which this cognitive unit is transformed into a cognitive category. As shown in Figure (b), by including the cognitive unit as a ground, it is possible to prominent the relationships between the three individuals. The second profiling option (Figure (c)), which includes this cognitive unit as a whole, encompasses the individuals involved and their relationships, in effect profiling the entire cognitive unit that includes all its components and their interconnections. The relationship between matrix and embedded language involved in code-switching is consistent with the second cognitive process of prominence.

In extract 1, both communicators are from China, and the default relationship is uncle-nephew, so the communication is in Chinese and the language style is informal. Shen Xing was afraid of being scolded by his uncle, so he converted the term of vocative from 你 to 您. At this point, the informal style used by both communicators have been defaulted to the matrix language, which is equivalent to the small circle graphic in Figure b. At the same time, the relationship between the informal style of language used by the two communicators, more specifically, the form of vocative, comes to the fore, and that relationship is similarity. However, when Shen Xing converts 你 into the more respectful vocative form 您, the similarities that were previously highlighted are backgrounding and the differences are foregrounding, thus the relationship of difference is prominent. Therefore, the difference in status or power between the communicating parties is emphasized in the intercourse. It shows that Shen Xing weakens his own identity of power as a junior and strengthens his uncle's identity of power as an elder to diminish the negative impact of the intercourse through embedded language.

In extract 2, the communicating parties come from different countries, Aung Tun is a native of Sanbianpo and Shen Jiandong is a Chinese. In order to win the trust of the other party, Shen Jiandong chose to use the Mo language as the matrix language in the communication. So the Mo language used by both communicators becomes the cognitive subject that has been profiled and is used by default by both communicators, which corresponds to the small circle graphic in Figure b. At this point the Mo language used by both parties serves as the ground and the relationship between them is profiled as the figure. Because the two communicating parties come from different countries, and the Mo language is Aung Tun's mother tongue and Shen Jiandong's second foreign language, the relationship between the Mo language used by both parties in communication is difference. In order to ensure the success of this negotiation, Aung Tun converted the Mo language into Chinese. At this point, the similarity between the Chinese language used by Aung Tun as the embedded language and Shen Jiandong's mother tongue produces foregrounding and is profiled, the difference between the Burmese language used by the two communicators before produces backgrounding. The prominence of similarity brings social distance closer and constructs equivalent identities for both communicators.

In extract 3, the two communicators, Uncle Cai and Tisa, both come from Sanbianpo and share the same Chinese background, so the code choices in the communication process tend to be diverse and dynamic. The default status of both parties to the interchange is that of a trade boss on Sanbianpo. In the process of communication, Uncle Cai constructs his position of power as the threatener who has the right to control the life and death of others through non-verbal means, while Tisa's position of power as the threatened who has no right to bargain is also constructed accordingly. In the process of identity construction between the communicating parties, Tisa's use of honorifics as well as dialects came to the fore as embedded language, or as the figure from the matrix language. At the beginning of this communication, the matrix language used by both parties is default, so the relationship between them is similarity, but when the embedded language used by Tisa appears, the difference between the embedded language and the matrix language is profiled from the similarity and is noticed by both parties in the communication. Tisa's use of embedded language strengthens Uncle Cai's position of power, weakens his own position of power, and emphasizes his identity as a Chinese equivalent of Uncle Cai, which helps him to get a more closer social distance with Uncle Cai so as to reduce the negative impact of communication.

7.Conclusion

Code-switching is a communication strategy, the embedded language in the code-switching discourse has a prominence, which is more likely to attract people's attention to promote the correct understanding of the meaning of communication, and achieve the communication purpose.

To achieve the purpose of communication. Based on the figure-ground theory of cognitive linguistics, the article analyses the discourse involving code-switching in the dialogue of the television series Escape From the Trilateral Slopes from the perspective of cognitive linguistics, and mainly discusses how code-switching achieves the function of dynamic identity construction in communication in order to promote the successful achievement of the communicator. Through in-depth analyses of code-switching examples, it is found that in communicative situations, the speaker's powerful and equivalent identities are dynamically constructed through code-switching, and this dynamism is mainly achieved through the cognitive mechanism of prominence, especially the cognitive

process of profiling the relationships between the cognitive subject. According to different contexts, speakers make different code-switching choices to achieve communicative purposes, and the matrix and the embedded language used by both communicators also switch with each other, thus constructing dynamic identities. The study provides a more comprehensive analysis and interpretation of the relationship between code-switching and identity construction from cognitive, social and pragmatic perspectives, which provides a cognitive research direction for code-switching and identity construction , and also emphasizes the cognitive role of identity meaning construction. By analyzing the cognitive mechanism of the code-switching phenomenon and the dynamic construction of identity, it will help people to better understand this phenomenon and thus better use this communicative strategy to achieve communicative intentions and meanings.

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