

My partner for this task is Souvik Banerjee. I observed him for more than a week and I list out my observations, but first I'll talk about the languages I speak and the setting for the same(in flow with the order in the question).

Hindi and English are my primary languages. I can also read, write and understand Punjabi but I don't feel very comfortable conversing completely in Punjabi. So, considering my common environment I almost never use Punjabi. Most of my conversations with my friends and family happen in Hindi with natural borrowings and code-mixing with English. Still I can use Punjabi if required but the fluency will be just enough to make sense.

Most of my formal conversations happen in English, mostly with teachers, educated staff at airports, offices(except some offices where officials use only the local language Punjabi), strangers in an educated setting etc. While, in say, marketplaces or any informal setting I use Hindi. As far as I read myself, when talking to strangers I tend to wait for the other person to start the conversation and shift myself to his comfortable language. Unlike Souvik who starts off with English, my first preference is based on my reading of the listener. I somehow make a decision(mostly on the basis of the social status, i guess) whether the the listener is educated or not and accordingly proceed with the conversation. Not saying that I judge people or try that, it just comes very naturally and I don't really spend time at deciding what to start off with.

Hindi comes very naturally to me as back home, everyone, my parents, friends and even my teachers(once they are close enough to the students and are set for an informal conversation) use Hindi. English is very clearly the H language for me while Hindi and Punjabi the L languages.

Souvik tends to use all three, Bengali, Hindi and English depending on who he is talking to. He is best off at Bengali, being his mother tongue, him being from a Bengali family. While talking to his Bengali friends, he uses Bengali almost all the time and even if others who don't get Bengali are a part of the conversation, he tends to switch to Bengali if he needs to deliver a longer explanation to his Bengali friend. Being from Tripura, I guess is the reason that he considers English to be his second preference than Hindi and he usually messes up with the gender when talking in Hindi(mixes up with Bengali). So, let's say he meets a random stranger on the road who in my opinion doesn't look like someone who would know English, Souvik will still start off with English. So, while talking to his family members on the phone, I can very easily say that he uses Bengali which very less mixing with English and Hindi. In the playground or in canteens, he uses Hindi or English(Bengali if he talking to a Bengali friend). I guess the change for using Bengali while in the playground and unconscious conversations has come majorly after coming here. Let's say if he is to cry alone, that would be in Bengali while I would do the same in Hindi(however, interestingly I tend to use English sometimes, which is the effect of movies I

guess). If something hits me suddenly i would shift to Hindi while Souvik will shift to Bengali immediately, it's like a reflex language. The high variety for Souvik is English while Bengali and Hindi being the L varieties.

	<b>Souvik</b>	<b>Me(Priyank)</b>
<b><i>Mess/Canteen</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bengali(with Bengali friends)</li> <li>2. Hindi(with me and other north indians)</li> <li>3. English(with others and while discussing about study related topics)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hindi</li> <li>2. English(with people not knowing Hindi and while discussing study related topics)</li> </ol>
<b><i>Playground</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hindi</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hindi</li> </ol>
<b><i>Classroom discussions(with students)</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. English</li> <li>2. Hindi</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hindi</li> <li>2. English</li> </ol>
<b><i>Market place</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bengali(back home)</li> <li>2. English/Hindi(in Hyderabad)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hindi</li> </ol>
<b><i>Telephonic conversations(friends)</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bengali</li> <li>2. Hindi(with me and other North Indian friends)</li> <li>3. English</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hindi</li> <li>2. English</li> </ol>
<b><i>Telephonic conversations(family)</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bengali</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hindi</li> </ol>