Sociolinguistics
The Study of Speakers' Choices

FLORIAN COULMAS
Contents

1 Introduction: notions of language 1

Part I Micro-choices

2 Standard and dialect: social stratification as a factor of linguistic choice 17
   Questions for discussion 33
3 Gendered speech: sex as a factor of linguistic choice 36
   Questions for discussion 50
4 Communicating across generations: age as a factor of linguistic choice 52
   Questions for discussion 66
5 Choice and change 68
   Questions for discussion 82
6 Politeness: cultural dimensions of linguistic choice 84
   Questions for discussion 102

Part II Macro-choices

7 Code-switching: linguistic choices across language boundaries 107
   Questions for discussion 124
8 Diglossia and bilingualism: functional restrictions on language choice 126
   Questions for discussion 144
9 Language spread, shift and maintenance: how groups choose their language 146
   Questions for discussion 169

vii
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Language and identity: individual, social, national</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Questions for discussion</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Language planning: communication demands, public choice, utility</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Questions for discussion</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Select letters: a major divide</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Questions for discussion</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>The language of choice</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Questions for discussion</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Glossary of terms 233
References 236
Internet resources 254
Index 255