

## **E-discourse among learners of English in Kazakhstan**

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**Keywords:** E-discourse, Code-switching, Computer-mediated communication, Social network.

**Abstract.** Today computer-mediated communication (CMC) has become one of the favoured modes of communication. This tendency has had a huge impact on the language in terms of its dynamics, usage and practice. Based on sociolinguistic and discourse-analytic approach, the paper focuses on the analysis of students' speech in Facebook – one of the social-networking websites. The study, particularly, investigates occurrences of code-switching – alternate use of more than one language within a single discourse - in computer-mediated communication among bilingual university students. By examining social networks of students, the present paper demonstrates that the use of English in Kazakhstan's linguistic landscape serves as a means of constructing identity. Based on the analysis of the data, the paper suggests some functions and reasons for code-switching in computer-mediated communication. Some further recommendations are given for more substantial results in the future.