CHAPTER 1

What do sociolinguists study?

- WHAT IS SOCIOLINGUISTICS?
  - Socio+language;
  - Relationship between language and society;
  - The study of language as it affects and is affected by social relations. (www.reference.com)

Antonio: Hi mum.
Mom: Hi. You’re late.
Antonio: Yeah, that bastard Sootbucket kept us in again.
Mom: Nana’s here.
Antonio: Oh sorry. Hi, grandma. I didn’t see you.

Leaving school Antonio ran into the school principal:

Antonio: Good afternoon, Sir.
Principal: What are you doing here at this time?
Antonio: Mr. Sutton kept us in, Sir.

People’s way to speak is influenced by the social context.

- WHY DO WE SAY THE SAME THING IN DIFFERENT WAYS?
  - Because language provides a variety of ways.

  You can be called:
  1. Sweetheart – from your Mother;
  2. Misses – from your subordinated;
  3. Quezy – from a close friend .

These different ways are called “LINGUISTIC VARIATION”.

LINGUISTIC VARIATION

Example:
Refuse should be deposited in the receptacle provided.
vs
Put your rubbish in the bin, Julinha.

Hemnesberget is a small village in Norway.

WHAT CONTRIBUTES TO THE APPROPRIATE CHOICE?
- Social Distance Scale: Intimate/distant?
- Status Scale: Superior/subordinate?
- Formality Scale: Formal/informal?
- Functional Scale: Referential or affective?

To know why variety occurs you might:
1. Identify the linguistic variation involved (vocabulary, dialects, languages, etc.)
2. Identify the different social factors (setting, function, etc.)
3. Then, finally ask the question: "Why would people use one set of forms rather than the other"?

CHAPTER 2
Language choice in multilingual communities

CHOOSING A VARIETY/CODE IN MULTILINGUAL COMMUNITIES
- Domains (below).

DIGLOSSIA
- People are bilingual. Communities are diglossic.
  1. Two varieties of the same language are used in the community; (H) high variety and (L) low variety;
  2. They complement each other (each is used for distinct functions);
  3. No one uses H in everyday conversation.
  4.

Although diglossia may be stable, - as the Arabic-speaking countries in Haiti - one variety may gradually displace the other, as occurred to the displacement between English and French in the fourteenth century.
CODE-SWITCHING OR CODE-MIXING

Nayhara: I think everyone is here except Denise.
Julia: She said she might be a bit late but actually I think that's her arriving now.
[Hi Denise. Come in. How are you?]
Denise: Kia ora e hoa. Kei te pai. Have you started yet?
[Hello my friend. I'm fine.]

METAPHORICAL SWITCHING

Each of the codes represents a set of social meaning and the speaker draws on association of each, just as people use metaphors to represent complex meaning.
In different words, Metaphorical Switching is usually used for speakers with superior knowledge and experience for rhetorical reasons.

THE END

Ufa!

Sources:
- http://www.pbs.org/speak/speech/sociolinguistics/sociolinguistics/
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ji6vURnWfrk
- www.reference.com
- www.dictionary.com