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·All submitted articles and/or reviews should be typed

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·The submission which should contain the title page,

should also contain professional details of the author(s):name(s),contact address and institutional/organizational affiliation all in the first page.

·Each paper should be accompanied with an abstract.

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Kaduna Journal of Humanities(KJH)is a journal of theDepartment of History,Kaduna State University that publishes well researched articles,book reviews,review articles and scholarly opinions from scholars,researchers,policy makers and opinion molders among others,on a wide range of topics within the disciplines-of humanities;dealing with issues that augments knowledge and ideas,whose lessons would provide the path towards scholarship development,peace,harmony,and security in Nigeria,Africa and the world.KJH editorial policy is neither committed to any constricted ideological prism nor political viewpointInstead,it recognizes that a wide range of multi-disciplinary approaches are fundamental in understanding a wide range of issues across disciplines in the humanities genre.It equally appreciates that opposing viewpoints and ideologies,which have shaped,and are still shaping the understanding/misunderstanding of issues are legitimate in academic discourses.This is one of our responsibilities of a university ;and as academics,our aim is the universalization of knowledge and cross-pollination of-ideas for development and human progress.

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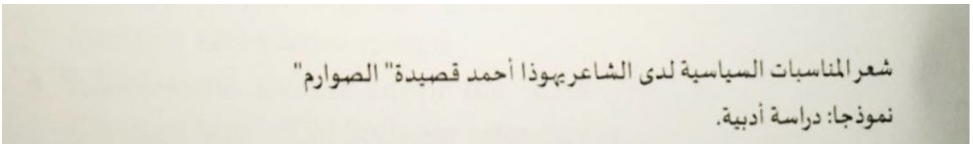
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An Examination of the Influence of English language on the Development and Usage of Yoruba Language in Kwara State,North-Central Nigeria

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Abstract

The brazen embracement of English by Nigerians,tothe detriment of indigenous languages,necessitates urgent linguistic attention before such languages become extinct.The prioritization of English has culminated in a reduction in the equality and value ofAfrican indigenous languages,such as Yoruba.This study aims to examine the perceived influence ofEnglish on the development of African indigenous languages,using Yoruba as a case study.The sample comprised 100 respondents,randomly selected from across four local government areas in the KwaraCentral Senatorial District.Data were analyzed using correlation and descriptive statistics.The findings revealed that Yoruba was being abandoned in favor of English.Furthermore,the prioritization of English has had a negative impact on the value and quality of the indigenous language (Yoruba). It is therefore recommended that the first language(L^1)should be used as the language of communication in schools and local communities,rather than the second language(English).

Introduction

Language remains an integral part of people's identity.It serves as a window through which the outer world can be perceived.According to Godwin and Sam(n.d.),"Language is central to learning and is an

indispensable tool for the development of any nation."They further affirm that without language,meaningful progress cannot be achieved;thus,success in language learning would have a multiplying effect on education and the entirety of human existence.However,for purposeful development,language must be central;hence,education is a function of human development.

The emergence of English in Nigeria resulted from the urgent need for a national language to facilitate unity and effective communication.Consequently,English has assumed several functions,performing both intra-national and international roles.Internationally,it serves as the language of education,media,science,and technology.In Nigeria,it is an official language and lingua franca(Katibi,2011).Bamigbose (1971)observed that "the introduction ofEnglish as a subject in primary schools through higher education as a medium of instruction means that Nigerian children's access to the culture and scientific knowledge of the world is largely throughEnglish."He maintained that since the products of the schools will be absorbed into various types of employment where English is the official language of communication,proficiency in English is a necessary qualification.

Internationally,English remains the sole instrument that comments the bond of relationships among nations.Similarly,Coleman (2010)asserted

that"English is a major international language with multiple functions and roles."It plays a critical role in commerce,tourism,migration,and education.He identified four areas where EnglishLanguage functions:(i)promoting employment opportunities,(ii)facilitating international mobility,(iii)unlocking development,and(iv)serving as an impartial language.

Our primary concern in this paper is the influence of the EnglishLanguage on the development of African indigenous languages,using Yoruba as a case study.The study aims to reveal people's attitudes towards the use of indigenous languages.

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statement of he Problem

Several research works,particularly on linguistic functions of English abound.However,it is an established fact that development of African indigenous language has not receive due attention .This neglect is largely attributed to Nigerians lukewarm attitude toward using indigenous language. This paper aims to examine the influence on the English language on the development of African indigenous languages,with the hope of filling this knowledge gap and proffering solutions towards developing African indigenous language like Yoruba.

Research Questions To guide the study,the following research questions were raised:

i.What are the perceived influences of English on the development of African indigenous languages(Yoruba)?

i.What is the general attitude of people towards using the Yoruba language?

ii.What are the linguistic effects of giving English more attention than indigenous languages like Yoruba?

Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated to guide the study:

i.English has no significant influence on the development of the Yoruba language.

i.The general attitude of people towards the use of the Yoruba language is not encouraging.ii.Giving priority to English over indigenous languages has significant linguistic effects.

Aims and Objectives

This study aims to examine the perceived influence of the English language on the development of the Yoruba language.The main objectives of this study include .

*To examine the perceived influence of the English on the development of African indigenous languages,such as Yoruba

*To account for the general attitude of people towards the use of the

Yoruba language

*To reveal the linguistic effects of prioritizing English over indigenous language like Yoruba

National Policy on Education and Indigenous LanguagesThe national policy on language believes that a nation's policy on education is a government's means of achieving national goals through education (Godwin and Sam,n.d.:4).The authors further emphasize that,over the years,educationists,policymakers,and successive governments have attempted to establish an acceptable language for Nigeria.Bamigboye(1998)observed that "the introduction of formal education and the subsequent adoption ofEnglish as the medium of instruction hindered the inclusion of indigenous languages as media of instruction."The policy recognizes that,in the first three years of primary school,the indigenous-language of the child or the language of their immediate environment should be the medium of instruction,while English will also be taught as a subject across schools.

Theoretical Framework

The theory of linguistic relativity,propounded by Sapir-Whorf,affirms that "language influences thought"(Akujobi,2016;Herbert,2012).Linguistic

relativity is premised on the fact that the language we speak influences our perception of the world,thought,values,and experiences.

Methodology

This study employed a descriptive research design.The PerceivedInfluence of the English Language on the Development of YorubaLanguage(TPIOELODOYL)questionnaire was used to elicit necessary information from respondents.

The questionnaire consisted of 20 structured items in the form of statements prepared in four multiple-choice options:Strongly Agree(SA),Agree(A),Strongly Disagree (SD),and Disagree (D).A total of four senior secondary schools were randomly selected across fourLocal Government Areas in Kwara Central Senatorial District,KwaraState.In each Local Government Area,one senior secondary school-was selected,'bringing the total number of randomly selected secondary schools to four.

The sample consisted of 100 respondents,including teachers and students from the four randomly selected secondary schools.In each school,15 teachers were randomly selected,and 10 students were also involved,bringing the total number of respondents to 100.

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Analysis and presentation of data

This aspects deals with analysis of data and presentation of result, these are considered under the following sub-headings.

Treatment of Research

Items on the questionnaire were used to treat the research questions earlier raised in this study. Description statistics were used was used for the analysis of research questions.As soon as data was collected, frequency count respondents' responses were converted to percentages. This form parts of the basis for data analysis .

RQ.01.What are the perceived influence of English on the development of African indigenous language (Yoruba)?

Items 1,2,3,8,15,and 20 of the questionnaire were used to treat this research question.

Table 1:The Perceived Influence of English on the Development of African indigenous Language(Yoruba).

S/N	Items	Responses			
		Position	%	Negative	%
1.	I prefer speaking in English to speaking in vernacular (Yoruba)	70	70%	30	30%
2.	Speaking English in our school attracts more recognition	60	60%	40	40%
3.	The speaking of vernacular (Yoruba) is discouraged in our school	85	85%	15	15%
4.	We don't have a teacher to teach our native language (Yoruba) in our school.	96	96%	4	4%
5.	The teaching of Yoruba should be discouraged in our school	10	10%	90	90%
6.	I like our school because English is the medium of	90	90%	10	10%

Table 1 indicates the response of teachers and students at the levels of positive and negative attitudes. It has been observed from their responses as clearly shown from the result of the above table that the use of English in Nigeria had the influence over the development

African indigenous languages with a particular reference to Yoruba language where Nigerian people are not bothered by their identity which language symbolizes.

RQ2:What is the general attitude of people towards the use of Yoruba language?

Items 4,5,9,10,11,12,17,18 of the questionnaire were used treat this very research question

Table 2:The General Attitude of People Towards the Use of YorubaLanguage.

S/N	Items	Responses			
		Position	%	Negative	%
7	I can hardly speak my own language (Yoruba)	85	85%	15	15%
8	A lot of students in our school cannot speak their native language (Yoruba)	70	70%	30	30%
9	Students are always penalised for speaking vernacular (Yoruba) in our school.	90	90%	10	10%
10	As a teacher, I detest student speaking or communicating in indigenous language (Yoruba)	96	96%	4	4%
11	Many parents embrace the use of English	70	70%	30	30%
12	I was brought up with English	80	80%	20	20%
13	I cannot identify myself with anyone who speaks vernacular (Yoruba)	75	75%	25	25%
14	Many students cannot speak in Yoruba because they were not exposed to it right from their included homes.				

Table 2 give clear indication of teachers and student attitudes of people towards the use of indigenous language with reference toYoruba .Their responses have confirmed to us that except on few

cases, we appreciate and embrace English at the expense of the indigenous languages

RQ3: what are the linguistic effects of giving English much more attention than indigenous language like Yoruba?

Items 6,7,13,16,19,and 20 of the questionnaire and were used answer this research question

Table3:The Linguistic fects of English over the Yoruba Language.

Table 3: The Linguistic Effects of English over the Yoruba Language.

S/N	Items	Responses			
		Position	%	Negative	%
15	Our orientation has changed because of our exposure to English and its attendant features	90	90%	10	10%
16	Only English is recognised in our school	80	80%	20	20%
17	We are exposed to reign dress in our school	75	75%	25	25%
18	When tested, only very few students can read and write in native language (Yoruba)	94	94%	6	6%
19	Both English and Yoruba should be used together in our school	98	98%	02	2%
20	Our parents do not teach us how to speak our language.	77	77%	23	23%

Teachers and Students responses have been indicate that very many side-effects abound because we fail to expose our wards to the native language. It is wrong and linguistically erroneous if children are not exposed to their native language

Testing of HypothesesThe hypotheses earlier formulated in this study were tested using correlation statistics at the level of significance of 0.05.

Hypotheses one:English has no influence on the development ofYoruba language.

Table 4:The Perceived influence of English on the Development of Yoruba language.

Variables	N	X	SD	DF	P-Value	r-cal	r-tab	Remark
The influence of English	100	2.08	1.66	198	0.01	0.085	0.152	HO Rejected
African indigenous language	100							

Table 4 showed that the P-value of 0.01 is less than the level of significance of 0.05.The hypothesis one which stated that English has no influence on the development of Yoruba language is rejected.Thus,English has a great influence on the development of African indigenous language like Yoruba.

Hypothesis Two:The general attitude of people towards the use ofYoruba language is encouraging.

Table 5:People's Attitude Towards the Use of Yoruba Language.

Variables	N	X	SD	DF	P-Value	r-cal	r-tab	Remark
The usee of English	100	2.08	1.66	198	0.01	0.085	0.152	HO Rejected
African indigenous language	100							

Table 5 indicated that the calculated p-value of 0.01 is less than than the level of significance of 0.05.The hypothesis two which stated that the attitude of people towards the use of indigenous languages is encouraging is rejected.Thus,we need a better orientation towards exhibiting and embracing our indigenous languages.

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Hypothesis Three English should be given priority any of the indigenous languages.

Table 6:The Need to give Priority to English Over the IndigenousLanguages.

Table 6 has indicated that the calculated P-value of 0.01 is less that the level of significance of 0.05.The hypothesis three which stated that priority should be given to English over the indigenous languages by rejected.Thus,we must value our own language and appreciate it as well

Discussion of Findings

The research questions were treated and examined through teachers and students responses,as indicated in Tables 1,2,and 3.

Table 1 reflects teachers' and students' attitudes regarding the perceived influence of English on the development of African indigenous languages,using Yoruba as a case study.The majority of-teachers and students preferred speaking in English to Yoruba.Seventy(70)respondents agreed with this proposition,while 30disagreed.Similarly,90 respondents agreed that English remains the medium of communication in secondary schools.This result supports Akinola (2016),who opined that "many people in Nigeria discard native languages for foreign languages,and for anyone to function linguistically,the use of a native language is essential."

Table 2 revealed teachers 'and students' responses regarding their attitudes and perceptions towards the use of indigenous languages.It was

discovered that many people find it difficult to speak in their native language(Yoruba).This is justified by the 85 respondents who showed positive responses,while only 15 disagreed.Furthermore,it was discovered that many teachers contribute to students in ability toYoruba,as they often penalize students in a native language like (Yoruba), as they often penalize students who attempt to do so. Ninety-six respondents agreed with this,while only 4 disagree. Additionally parents were found to contribute to this plight,as they often do not expose their children to speaking in their native language

The results from Table 3 showed the linguistic effects of prioritizing English over indigenous languages like Yoruba.Ninety-eight respondents supported the use of both English and Yoruba.The-recognition given to English over indigenous languages needs to be reassessed in our secondary schools.

The hypotheses formulated in this study were also tested.Hypothesis one revealed that English has a significant influence on the development of African indigenous languages like Yoruba.This agrees with Oladejo (2008),who asserted that "it is myopic to forsake indigenous languages for foreign languages."Hypothesis two revealed that a better orientation is needed to exhibit and embrace indigenous languages,while hypothesis three indicated that indigenous languages must be valued and appreciated.

Conclusion

Language remains an integral part of people's identity and serves asa window through which the outer world can be seen.This study reflects the perceived influence of the English language on the development of Yoruba language in Kwara State.The findings revealed that English is prioritized over indigenous languages likeYoruba,and that English has significantly influenced the development of African indigenous languages like Yoruba.

Based on these findings,it is recommended that the use of bothEnglish and indigenous languages as media of instruction in secondary schools will enhance the use and development of Yoruba language.Parents are also urged not to prioritize English over indigenous languages like Yoruba,as no child can function effectively in a second language situation without excelling in their native language.

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