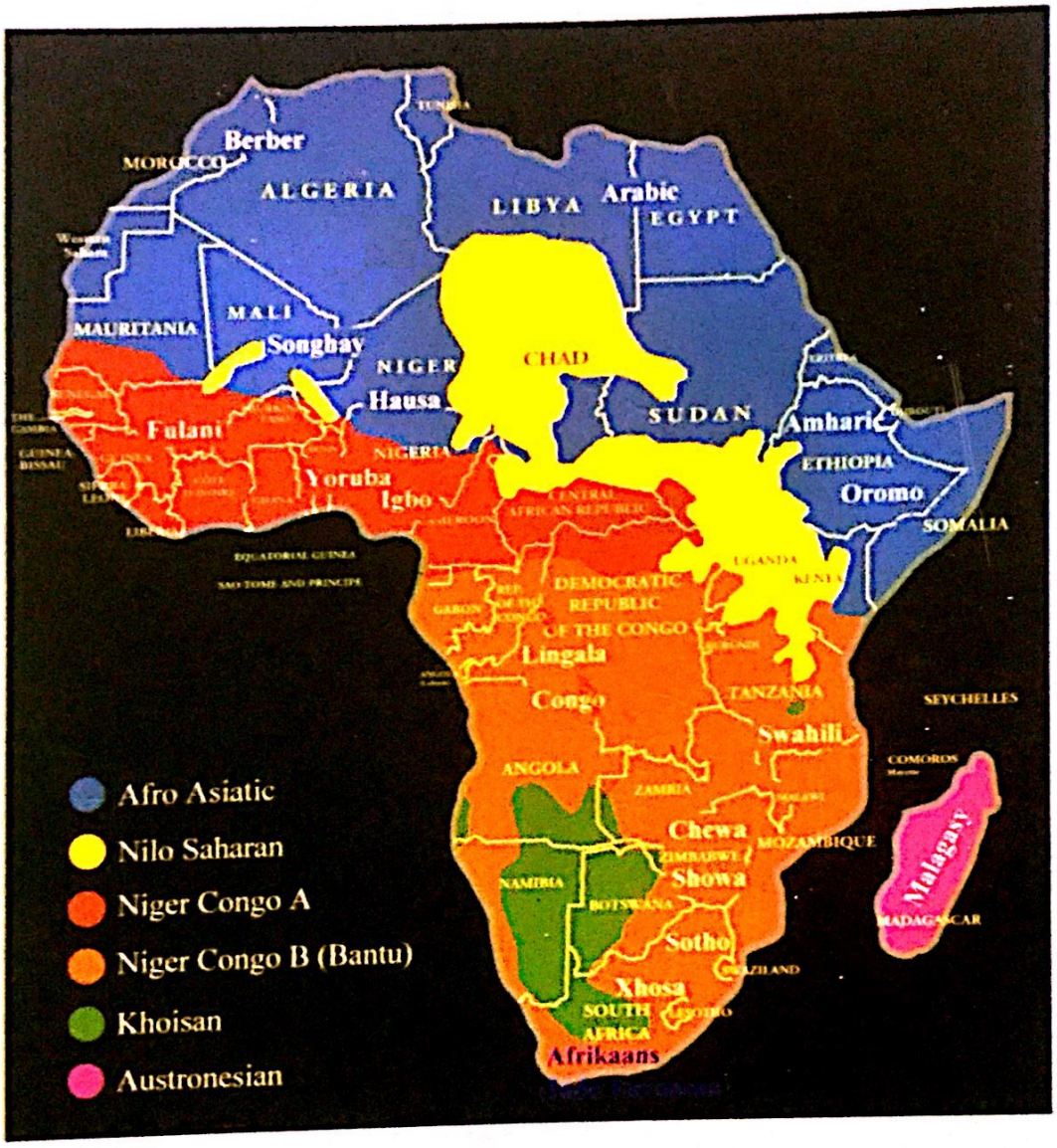
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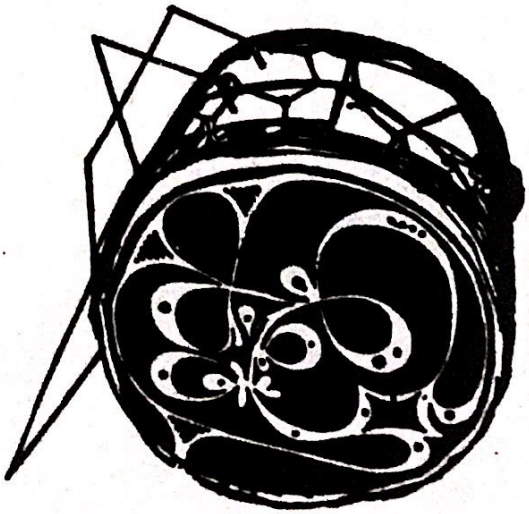
In commemoration of the ***50th Anniversary of the West African Linguistic Society (WALS)***

Oye Taiwo and ***Lendzemo Constantine Yuka***

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In commemoration of the
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the West African Linguistic Society (WALS/SLAO)



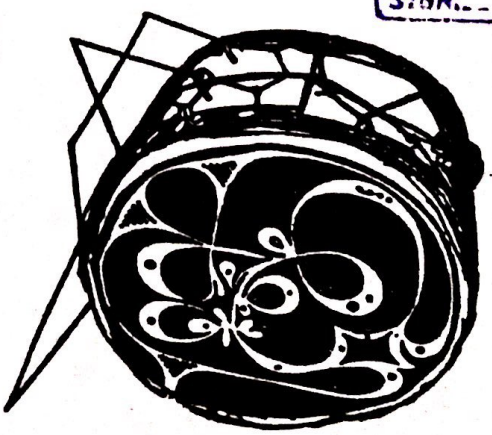
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In commemoration of the
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Oye Taiwo
&
Lendzemo Constantine Yuka

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West African Linguistic Society (WALS)
La Société de Linguistique de L'afique de L'ouest (SLAO)

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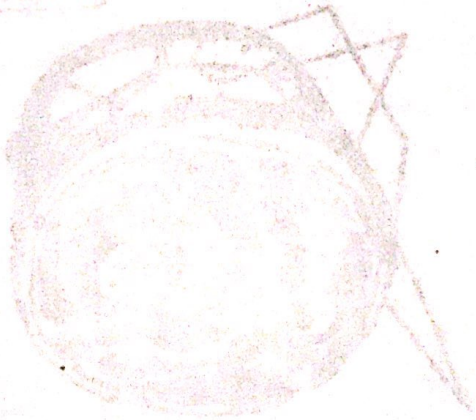
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Cover: Map of African language families and some major African languages
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Table of Contents

	Page
Contributors	ix – xv
A Brief History of WALS/SLAO	xvi - xvii
Preface	xviii-xix
Acknowledgements	xx
1 Introduction and Overview - *Oye Taiwo & Lendzemo Constantine Yuka*	1 - 7
SECTION ONE: SYNTAX, MORPHOLOGY AND PHONOLOGY	
2 On Symmetricality in Emai Serial Verb Constructions - *Ronald P. Schaefer*	11 - 26
3 Semantics of Possession in Edo - *Oye Taiwo & Perpetual Usenbo*	27- 37
4 The LTS and Polarity in Ṣúpárè Negated Clauses – *L.C. Yuka & Francis Adefabi*	38 - 46
5 Interrogatives in Ìyìnnọ́: A Unified Analysis - *Olabode Abimbola & Simeon Olaogun*	47 - 58
6 The DP Structure of the Òɡè Dialect of the Ǹjọ̀-Kọ́o Language - *Michael Oshindoro & Oye Taiwo*	59 - 72
7 A Syntax of Interogatives in Izhi, Ezaa and the Standard Igbo Dialects: A Micro- Parametric Approach - *Michael Alozie Nwala & Jeremiah Anene Nwankwegu*	73 - 83
8 Null Postpositional Complementizer in Bàtọ̀nu Infinitival Clauses: A Violation of Case Filter Principle - *Tella Samson Adekunle, Clement Odoje & Olabode Abimbola*	84 - 90
9 A Structural Analysis of Igala Verb Phrase – *Johnpaul O. Naomi*	91 - 101
10 Head Movement in the Tiv Language - *Angitso Michael*	102 - 117
11 Sentence Typologies in *Akinwumi Isola's Ó Le Kú* - *Toyin Olakolu & Oye Taiwo*	118 - 140
12 A Typology of Coordination in Igbo - *Maduabuchi Senne Agbo*	141 - 154

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13 Relative Construction and Wh-Question in Edo and its Learning Implication on ESL Learners 155 - 165
- *Lamidi M.T. & Akinmurele A.T.*

14 A Syntax of Yoruba Imposters 166 - 176
- *Kayode Komolafe*

15 Affixation in Obolo 177 - 182
- *Ataisi Gladday*

16 Morphological Properties of Ésàn Nouns 183 - 191
- *Mabel E. Aziegbe*

17 Redundancies and Morpheme Structure Conditions In Usen 192 - 200
- *Ikhmiwin G.A*

18 Dissecting the Phenomenon of Borrowing in Urhobo .201 - 205
- *Moses E. Dara & Philip O. Ekiugbo*

19 Ògbahù Gerundivization: A Morpho-Phonological Study 206 - 212
- *G.O. Maduagwu*

20 Euphonic and Syllable Structure Processes In Alago 213 - 217
- *Ashikeni Thomas Ogah*

21 The Phonology of Children with Fluency Disorders in Makurdi, Nigeria. 218 - 221
- *Elizabeth Ugechi*

SECTION TWO: SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS

22 A Descriptive Analysis of Synonymy in Igbuzo- Igbo 225 - 235
- *E.N. Oweleke*

23 A Semantic Approach to the Culinary Terms of Jukun and English 236 - 244
- *Upah Butari Nahum*

24 An interpretative Analysis of Code in Yorùbá Riddles 245 - 253
- *Saka Idayat Odenike*

25 Semantics and Tone in Esan Lexical Formations 254 - 264
- *Ikoyo-Eweto Evarista Ofure*

26 The Heart Body-part Metaphor in Igbo 265 - 275
– *Chidinma Okeogu and Uzoma Chukwu*

27 A Critical Analysis of the Lexico-Semantic Errors in the English Subtitles of Selected Yorùbá Films 276 - 283
- *Abubakre Samiat Olọbunmi (Mrs)*

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SECTION THREE: CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS

28 A Contrastive Analysis of Coordinate Structures, Non-Finite Constructions and Expletives in English and Edo 287 - 299
– *Akinmurele M.T.*

29 A Contrastive Analysis of Tense and Aspect Marking in English and Abinu 300 - 312
- *Omotosho Moses Melefa*

30 The African Time Syndrome: A Contrastive Linguistic Investigation of the English and Yoruba Phraseology of Time 313- 326
– *Bamigbade W. A.*

SECTION FOUR: LEXICAL DEVELOPMENT/TRANSLATION

31 Metaphors in Medical Terminology and Implications for Terminology Development 329 - 341
- *Funmi O. Olubode-Sawe & Onwu Inya*

32 Rule-Based Machine Translation: An Interface between Formal and Natural Language Syntax 342 - 349
- *Odoje C.*

33 The Challenges of Translating Igbo proverbs into English 350 - 356
- *Ijioma P. Ngozi*

SECTION FIVE: SOCIOLINGUISTICS

34 The Effects of Poverty on Indigenous Language Documentation in Nigeria 359 - 368
- *Lere Adeyemi*

35 Language of Competition in the Station-promoting Jingles of Radio: A Study of Broadcasting Stations in Kwara State, Nigeria 369 - 381
- *Friday Otun*

36 The Effect of Language Contact on the Phonology of Urhobo 382 - 387
- *Rose O. Aziza*

37 Appraisal of the Proposal for a West African Lingua Franca versus Egalitarian Multilingual Language Policy 388 - 396
- *Femi Bamgbade*

38 Indigenous Language Exclusion As The Bane Of Our Cultural Identity 397 - 403
- *Yemi Ogunsiji*

39 Language Planning in Nigeria: The Legislative Option 404 - 413
– *Don Emenike*

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40 Attainment of Educational Development through Nigerian Indigenous Languages 414 - 423
- *Eze Juliana Chizobam*

41 Nigerian Pidgin: An Endangered Language 424 - 430
- *Oreoluwa Abraham Solomon*

42 A socio-cultural and Linguistic Analysis of Gbagyi names 431 - 439
- *David Areo Abraham*

43 New Trends in Personal Names among Pentecostals in South Western Nigeria 440 - 445
- *Oluwadoro Jacob Oludare*

SECTION SIX: CULTURE, LITERATURE AND GENDER 449 - 457

44 Lack of Purpose and Unity; Hannibal's Failures, Carthage's Doom 458 - 467
- *Monica O. Aneni & Tonye Ai-Onyanabo*

45 Dissemination And Understanding Of The ABC Prevention Programme of HIV/AIDS: A Case Study of Army Day Senior Secondary School, Benin City, Nigeria 468 - 475
- *P.O.Solomon-Etefia & G.A Ikhimwin*

46 The Brain and Neural Circuitry: A Case of Hausa Love Metaphors 476 - 487
– *Tijani Shehu Almaji*

47 Satire and Intertextuality in the Works of Ancient Roman Poets 488 - 504
– *Emmanual Folorunsho Taiwo*

48 Differences in Gender Discourse Behaviour in a Nigerian EAP Reading Classroom 505 - 512
- *Titi Fola-Adebayo*

49 The Challenges of the Oral Artist in the Contemporary Nigerian Society: The Tiv Experience 513 - 520
- *Ayem Shoja*

50 One Philosophy, Two Voices...? A Re-Examination of Yoruba Proverbs 521 - 530
- *Mewhenu Hosu Peter*

51 The Place of Folklore in Teaching and Learning 531 -536
– *Fasheun M. A. (Mrs) & Adenuga F. F. (Mrs)*

52 Mono-Cropping: The Bane of Sustainable Democracy in Nigeria 537 - 542
- *Adekunle Cynthia Titilayo*

53 The Use of Yorùbá Proverbs in Ọládẹ̀jọ Òkédìjí's *Àjà Ló Lẹrù, Àgbàlagbà Akàn* and *Rẹ̀rẹ̀ Run*
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A Brief History of the West African Linguistic Society (WALS)/ La Société de Linguistique de L'afique de L'ouest (SLAO)

The West African Linguistic Society (WALS)/ La Société de Linguistique de L'afique de L'ouest (SLAO) is a non-profitable association of academics, research workers, field workers and teachers drawn from the West African sub-region. These countries include Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Mali Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. Some of our very prominent members are those engaged in the scholarly study of the languages of West Africa, of their literatures and any other linguistic aspect of the area. Currently we have members resident in North America (Canada and USA), European Union (France, Netherlands, Spain, UK etc) and other parts of Africa.

The activities of the Society are governed by a Council. The Council consists of a President, a Secretary-Treasurer and seven other members. Once elected into the Council, a member serves for two Congresses of two years each. The West African Languages Congress (WALC) meets every other year. It is in such Congresses that members present their scholarly research findings for scientific purposes. Such congresses seek solutions to the linguistic problems, language planning tasks, educational and social development challenges of the West African region.

The Biennial Congress has been held in: Yaounde (Cameroon) 1966, Lagos (Nigeria) 1967, Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire) 1969, Freetown (Sierra Leone) 1970, Accra (Ghana) 1972, Yaounde (Cameroon) 1974, Ile Ife (Nigeria) 1976, Freetown (Sierra Leone); 1978, Cotonou (Benin) 1980, Port Harcourt (Nigeria) 1982, Yaounde (Cameroon) 1985, Ibadan (Nigeria) 1986, Niamey (Niger) 1988, Accra (Ghana) 1990, Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) 1994, Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire) 1998, Accra (Ghana) 1990, Buea, (Cameroon) 2002, Ibadan (Nigeria) 2004, Ibadan (Nigeria) 2006, Legon (Ghana) 2008, Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire) 2011, Ibadan (Nigeria) 2013. Abomey-Calavi 2015. The 2017 Congress is scheduled for Winneba, Ghana from 29th July to 5th August.

Prior to the formation of WALS/SLAO, a research body known as the Survey of West African Languages had, with the support of the Ford Foundation, been responsible for sponsoring and funding research in specific West African languages by appointing fellows to carry out research on specific languages, and by initiating two major publications: The Journal of West African Languages (JWAL) and the West African Language Monograph Series. The Survey was also responsible for initiating the West African Language Congresses, the first of which was held in Accra, Ghana in 1961. Under the chairmanship of the distinguished Africanist linguist, Professor Joseph H. Greenberg, the Survey's field activities were conducted under the supervision of its field director, Professor Robert G. Armstrong. On the occasion of the Fifth Congress held at the University of Ghana, Legon, on April 6 -10, 1965, the decision was taken to replace the Survey with a scholarly society which would be responsible to the membership. The erstwhile chairman of the Survey, Professor Greenberg, was elected the first President of the Society and Dr. Ayo Bamgbose, (now Professor Emeritus) was elected the first Secretary-Treasurer. The Current President of WALS/SLAO is Professor Firmin Ahoua of l'Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny, Côte d'Ivoire. Professor Lendzemo Constantine Yuka of the University of Benin, Benin-City, Nigeria is the Secretary-Treasurer.

WALS/SLAO took over the former activities of the Survey (other than the fellowship program), but it also proceeded to set up working groups, which are interest groups for specific areas of language research. The initial funding of WALS/SLAO came from two major grants awarded by the Ford Foundation ($ 140,000 in 1966 and $75,000 in 1972). Largely through this generous support, WALS/SLAO was able to fund most of its activities, including stimulating interest in linguistic study and research, especially among African scholars and students. In addition to this type of funding, members of WALS/SLAO pay an annual subscription, and the Society has received periodic support from governments, universities and the private sector at the time of its congresses. At practically every Congress, the government of the host country provides assistance by subsidizing hotel accommodation and providing transportation and other facilities. UNESCO has also provided grants in the past for simultaneous interpretation at some of the earlier congresses.

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The major achievements of WALS/SLAO in its 52 years of existence are: the establishment of Departments of Linguistics Across West African Universities, accelerated development of linguistics and the linguistics study in the West African sub-region, the stimulation of the training and production of African scholars in the field of linguistics, regional cooperation across the Anglophone and Francophone language divide, more intensive linguistic research, and maintenance of the two key activities of the Society, i.e. the Congresses and publication of the Journal of West African Languages (JWAL) as well as the publication of Congress Proceedings. JWAL became a free access journal in 2016 under Prof Adams Bodomo as Editor. In partnership with Société de Linguistique de Paris (SLP), WALS/SLAO organised a workshop in Paris in January 21st, 2016 tagged: *Linguistique Africaine: Perspectives Croisées.* Efforts have intensified to link WALS/SLAO with other regional language societies around the world.

Lendzemo Constantine Yuka
WALS/SLAO Secretary-Treasurer

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PREFACE

Under the auspices of the West African Linguistic Society (WALS)/ La Société de Linguistique de L'afique de L'ouest (SLAO), the University of Ibadan hosted the 29th West African Languages Congress (WALC) and the 26th Annual Conference of the Linguistic Association of Nigeria (CLAN), from the 29th of July to the 3rd of August 2013 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of WALS/SLAO. The theme of the conference was *Research, Documentation and Sustainability in the Development of West African Languages*. This joint conference took place under very challenging circumstances given the strike by the Academic Staff in public universities in Nigeria, within the period.

The huge success of this joint Conference can only be attributed to the hard work of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), under the chairmanship of Professor Francis Egbokhare, the Executive and Council of WALS/SLAO. The President, Council Members of WALS/SLAO and the LOC are immensely appreciative of the financial support of the Vice-Chancellor, the Postgraduate School, and the Distance Learning Centre of the University of Ibadan. We equally express our appreciation to the National Universities Commission (NUC), the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND), and MTN Nigeria. The Conference only held partly because of the generosity of the Management of the Dominican Institute, Samonda Ibadan, who hosted the conference on their campus.

The conference brought together researchers and students in the various fields of language studies, as well as different aspects of professional life where indigenous languages play a part. The thrust was to motivate and exchange ideas and promote the discussions of, progress in, and development of these areas in West African languages. Papers presented at the conference explored the different perspectives from which language studies reflect or impact on the diverse aspects of human endeavour. Some of the papers sought to foreground the various areas in which language and linguistics interface with different disciplines. In part, the aim of the organizers was to identify common grounds with other disciplines while emphasizing language as a core human capacity.

Immediately after the conference an editorial team was set up by the executive of WALS/SLAO and the WALC LOC, to assess all the papers presented at the Conference, towards their publication. The team had almost concluded this task when the executive of the Linguistic Association of Nigeria (LAN) expressed interest in some of the papers presented at the conference. It took a while to settle some of the exigencies of the post joint conference. The papers contained in this text are not a complete reflection of the diversity of the presentations at WALC/CLAN 2013 because: a) many of the papers failed to meet the content and quality requirements set by the editorial team. b) a good number of the papers had to be passed over to the executive of LAN on request, c) some of the papers contained distorted fonts which made correction difficult and research reporting incomprehensible, d) some conference participants out rightly failed to turn in the corrected versions of their papers.

The 52 chapters of this book contain well researched papers selected through a very rigorous assessment process, from the plethora of papers submitted for consideration. These papers have been organized into six (6) sections:

1. Syntax, Morphology and Phonology
2. Semantics and Pragmatics
3. Contrastive Analysis
4. Lexical Development/Translation
5. Sociolinguistics and
6. Culture, Literature and Gender Studies.

We wish to appreciate the numerous assessors who through their comments and suggestions to the authors helped to improve the quality of both the papers we have published here and those papers that are not part of this text. We equally thank the authors for their patience during the long period of assessment and editing. The West African Linguistic Society (WALS)/ La Société de

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Linguistique de L'afique de L'ouest (SLAO) has borne the cost of the publication of these papers, in spite of her dire financial situation. The executive of the Society recognizes the need to publish members' research findings and hope to encourage more research through this sacrifice.

Professor Lendzemo Constantine Yuka
Secretary/Treasurer, WALS/SLAO

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Oye Taiwo **and** ***Lendzemo Constantine Yuka***

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1

Introduction and Overview

Oye Taiwo and Constantine Yuka

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the West African Linguistic Society (WALS), the University of Ibadan hosted the 29th West African Languages Congress (WALC) and the 26th Annual Conference of the Linguistic Association of Nigeria (26CLAN), from the 29th of July to the 3rd of August 2013. The theme of the conference was *Research, Documentation and Sustainability in the Development of West African Languages*. The conference brought together researchers and students in the various fields of language studies, as well as, different aspects of professional life where indigenous languages play a part. The thrust was to motivate and exchange ideas and promote the discussions of, progress in, and development of these areas in West African languages. Papers presented at the conference explored the different perspectives from which language studies reflect or impact on the diverse aspects of human endeavour. Some of the papers sought to foreground the various areas in which language and linguistics interface with different disciplines. In part, the aim of the organizers was to identify common grounds with other disciplines while emphasizing language as a core human capacity.

The fifty-three chapters of this book contain well researched papers selected through a very rigorous assessment process, from the plethora of papers submitted for consideration. These papers have been organized into six (6) sections: Syntax, Morphology and Phonology, Semantics and Pragmatics, Contrastive Analysis, Lexical Development/Translation, Sociolinguistics, and Culture, Literature and Gender Studies.

Section one, the syntax, morphology and phonology section, has twenty chapters, thirteen of which are syntax papers, four in morphology, while the remaining three are in phonology. In Chapter two, Schaefer takes up the discussion of the symmetricality parameter within West African languages and argues that Ewe (a serialising language spoken in Ghana and Togo) is wholly symmetrical. The chapter assesses the verb status of predicate elements that occur in Emai (a West Benue Congo language of Nigeria's Edoid group) serial verb constructions and, more generally, its complex predicates. It found that across semantic domains predicate pair elements reveal a symmetrical character, an asymmetrical nature or a variable symmetrical/asymmetrical type. This symmetricality parameter fosters a better understanding of verb structure in the languages of West Africa, their historical development and their broader evolutionary heritage. In the next chapter, Taiwo and Usenbo examine the semantics of possessives in Ẹdó using the framework of compositionality and type theory. The analysis reveals that the transitivity of nouns affects their possessive interpretations. They conclude that the meaning of Ẹdó possessives cannot be wholly determined by its semantics; contextual factors need to be considered.

Yuka and Adefabi, in chapter four, identify and examine the Low Tone Syllable (LTS) in Ṣúpárè, a Yorùbá dialect spoken in Àkókó South-West Local Government Area of Ondo State. The chapter investigates the role of the LTS in negating basic declarative Ṣúpárè clauses and claims that the polarized tone in Ṣúpárè is what enables Arg-S in Ṣúpárè to share morphological identity with the High Tone Syllable (HTS) in standard Yorùbá. The chapter establishes that the negation of an already focussed element is achieved through a tripartite tone polarity.

The focus of Abimbola and Olaogun, in chapter five, is to demonstrate that the traditional analyses of content word questions and polar questions are inadequate for Ìyìnnọ́, a dialect of Àìká. They propose a Heavy Pied-piping Condition (HPC) in their quest to sustain a unified analysis earlier proposed by Aboh and Pfau (2011), and Olaogun (2012) for interrogative derivations. Their conclusion is that the movement of wh-operators is motivated only to delimit the questioned

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constituents from the rest of the sentence. This chapter shows that the three question types so-far identified activate interrogative force and should be taken as such.

Chapter six is about the DP structure of the Ògè dialect of the Njo-Koo language. The authors, Oshindoro and Taiwo, explore the nominal phrase of Ògè with the aim of constructing an internal hierarchical architecture of the D-system as well as providing evidence for N-movement within the DP, all with the subtext of the notion of universality. They demonstrate that there is an internal hierarchical structure that holds within the D-system and that a probe-goal approach through operation Agree best explains the motivation for raising: feature valuation. In chapter seven, Alozie Nwala and Anene Nwankwegu compare the syntax of interrogatives in Izhi, Ezaa and the standard Igbo dialects with the view to establishing some micro variations inherent across the closely related dialects. Their findings reveal that the compared dialects exhibit a wide range of wh-question possibilities and counterexamples to some illustrations of binary choice and other wh-parametric descriptions in the literature of wh-grammar – among which is the possibility of expressing wh-question/meaning without overt wh-element.

In chapter eight, Tella, Odoje and Abimbola attempt a syntactic analysis of infinitival clauses in Bàtònu language within the theoretical framework of Government and Binding. They observe that the acceptability and grammaticality of gerundival clauses in Bàtònu with overt NPs in subject position is an ungoverned position inaccessible to case role violates the theoretical requirement of such a position to be obligatorily assigned a case role, in as much as there is no adjacent overt case assigner equivalent to case mark it. On the strengths of their findings, they propose a revision of the case filter principle in the syntax of an infinitival clause in accordance with the provision of GB. Chapter nine, authored by Johnpaul, investigates the internal structure of the verb phrase in Igala. The chapter identifies three broad verb forms namely: simple, compound and complex. It further shows that the Igala verb could be copular, auxiliary, transitive or intransitive and the verb phrase could assume several structures which could be summarized thus: VP→ V (NP) (PP) (Adv P).

Angitso investigates head movement in Tiv in relation with the claims made by Chomsky (2001) and others in narrow syntax in chapter ten. The investigation is conducted under T to V movement and V to Asp movement in Tiv. The author employs data from Tiv to submit that the fact that morpho-semantic features do not satisfy conditions such as extension conditions does not mean they should not be recognized. Head movement takes place before transfer because its semantics has a stake in its syntax and phonetic representation. Olakolu and Taiwo attempts a syntactic analysis of the text, *Ó le kú* written by Akinwumi Isola in chapter eleven. They identify the sentence structures and analyze the relationship between the syntax, the content of a literature and semantic intent of the author. The chapter concludes that the sentence structure in *Ó le kú* shows that the author has an excellent command of Yorùbá. Chapter twelve is on typology of coordination in Igbo. In the chapter, Agbo sets out to explore the syntactic and semantic types of coordinators in Igbo beyond the traditional single class of conjunctions. The investigation shows that coordinators like **nà, mà, kà, kwà** and **kwù** are functional in Igbo conjunctive coordination; while **mà ọ bụ** and **kà ọ bụ** are functional in disjunctive coordination. This novel approach to the study of Igbo coordinate constructions provides the background for studying other coordinate constructions like the *irreversible binominal, augmentative, comitative* and *representative* coordination, which are special types of coordination with specific features in Igbo.

In chapter thirteen, Lamidi and Akinmurele attempt a contrastive analysis (CA) of NP movements in Edo (L1) and English (L2) with a view to establishing (dis)similarities between the two languages and consequently identifying resources capable of pedagogical application. The chapter explains that while English has different markers of relative constructions, Edo has only one relative marker (i.e. *nẹ̀*). The chapter provides evidence that while all *wh*-phrases are subject to movement in English, some Edo *wh*-phrases can only occur at sentence final position. The authors claim that it is necessary for language teachers to pay more attention to language peculiar

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computational idiosyncrasies in order to help learners overcome problems they may encounter. Komolafe examines how imposters contribute to the binding principles in the syntax of Yoruba in chapter fourteen. He reveals that in Yoruba, the 1st and 2nd person pronominals have no inherent phi-feature values that trigger the presupposition on the mapping of these pronouns to their functions, rather, there is arguably a null constant to which 1st and 2nd person pronominals agree respectively. He concludes that all pronominal phi-feature values in Yoruba are the result of agreement and that the presuppositional approach to pronominal phi-features is arguably incorrect.

Chapters fifteen to eighteen contain papers on morphology as part of the section. In chapter fifteen, Ataisi describes the combination of affixes in the formation of words in Obolo. The chapter provides evidence that in Obolo, nominal affixes, negative marker and aspect markers precede the root in the order of nominal affix, negation and aspect markers. Aziegbe discusses morphological properties of Esan nouns in in the next chapter, chapter sixteen. She argues that Ésàn nouns can be described with the feature name and value: [+N, -V] and [+N, +V]. The former describes simple forms of the noun, and complex nouns which are derived by compounding while the latter refers to complex nouns which are derived through processes of prefixation and parasynthesis. The author provides evidence that some Ésàn nouns are void of verbal traits and concludes that these nouns do not fully conform to Chomsky's universal categorial distinctive features. The focus of Ikimwin in chapter seventeen is to examine the Segment Structure Constraints, concerned with the nature of the sound segments, and the Sequence Structure Constraints, concerned with sequences of segments in a morpheme, of Usen. The chapter concludes that SqSCs in Usen are best presented using the Negative Condition (NC). In chapter eighteen, Darah and Ekiugbo discuss the phenomenon of borrowing in Urhobo. The chapter focuses on the following: (a) the kinds of borrowing in the language; (b) rationale for borrowing in the language; (c) the donor languages and (d) the effect of borrowing on the language. It provides evidence that out of the four forms of borrowing, only two are realizable in Urhobo, which are loan word and loan blend. The chapter opines that the effect of borrowing on Urhobo includes language change, importation of new sounds into the sound system of the language, and of course, an elaboration of the lexicon of Urhobo.

Chapter nineteen is on morphology-phonology interface. In it, Maduagwu investigates Ọgbahù gerunds. She compares the Ọgbahù gerund with gerunds of some other Ìgbò dialects as well as Standard Ìgbò and states that contrary to Williams' (1984: 248) universal Right-hand Head Rule (RHR), the Left-hand Head Rule (LHR) is operational in Ọgbahù gerund. This is because the ò-/ọ- prefix vowel is the head of Ọgbahù gerund since it assigns the category label, gerund nominal to the derivand.

Chapters twenty and twenty-one are on phonology. In chapter twenty, Ashikeni Ogah examines euphonic and syllable structure processes in Alago, an Idomoid language of the Kwa-Niger Congo sub-family. In the chapter, Ashikeni Ogah elicits data using the 1017 Blench word list to investigate the effect of adjacent sounds on each other, their peculiar patterns and the syllable structure processes in Alago. This investigation reveals that in the Alago language, a consonant is palatalized before a front high vowel, a consonant is labialized before a rounded vowel, the vowels of Alago are constrained by a partial harmony system, a vowel is lengthened when it occurs before a consonant or before another vowel of the same kind, the final vowel of a verb stem is elided before a noun or nominal which begins with a vowel. The focus of Ugechi in chapter twenty-one is on the phonology of children with fluency disorder. The subjects were ten children between the ages of 5 and 10 years. She examined their speech talking note of clear articulation of the distinctive sounds, use of intonation and fluency rate, she found out that there were various degrees of severity amongst all subjects. There were cases of language delay in two subjects, which also affected their academic performance, and cases of family history of stuttering in three subjects. Initial counselling and six months of speech drill, showed remarkable improvement in the speech of the subjects. The author concluded by calling on parents and teachers to give urgent attention

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to stuttering and any form of developmental disorder in order to prevent further escalation of the problem.

Section two comprise six chapters on semantics and pragmatics from chapter twenty-two to twenty-seven. In chapter twenty-two, Oweleke gives a descriptive analysis of synonymy in Ìgbuzọ̀-Igbo. She notes that a good number of Igbuzọ lexical synonyms have diachronic implications, that selectional restriction is a predominant feature of synonymy, and that just like in other natural languages, absolute synonymy is a rare feature in Igbuzọ. The author concludes that synonymy is a very pervasive semantic relation in the lexicon of the Igbo language. A semantic approach to culinary terms in Jukun and English is the focus of Upah in chapter twenty-three. He claims that no language groups together some cooking terms at a primary level and at a secondary level to make a contrary distinction. The conclusion is that English may appear to have more cooking terms than Jukun but at the deeper level, some of these absent terms in Jukun are being encapsulated.

Saka examines the interpretation of coded Yoruba riddles in the twenty-fourth chapter. She focuses on the conceptual and associative meanings of some of the dictions from which the inference for the intended pragmatic meaning of the code in the riddle is known. The author concludes that the identified meaning relations that hold between the dictions in each riddle are enough for the pragmatic inferences needed for the interpretation of the code in Yorùbá riddles (àlọ́ àpamọ̀). The twenty-fifth chapter identifies changes in tonal configurations which occur simultaneously with semantic and segmental changes in lexical formations. In the chapter, Ikoyo-Eweto provides evidence to the claim that the non-derived nouns, second and third dimensions of demonstratives and numerals, bear combination configurations of H and L tones while verbs, adjunctives, personal pronouns and first dimension of demonstratives, bear L tones in citation. Derived nominals and adjunctives changed tonal configurations with a change in lexical unit.

Okeogu and Chukwu co-authored chapter twenty-six which is on the heart body-part metaphor in Igbo. The chapter discusses the Igbo language data generated for metaphor and establishes that metaphors belong more in the province of pragmatics than they do in the province of truth-conditional semantics. The authors think that it would be helpful if there were readily available repositories of naturally occurring Igbo language texts (corpora) that anyone could turn to. The last chapter in this section, chapter twenty-seven, is on the lexico-semantic errors in the English subtitles of selected Yoruba films. Abubakre, in the chapter, identifies, explains, evaluates and suggests ways to prevent further occurrences of the errors in two selected subtitled films, *Àkọ́bí Gómìnà* "The Governor's Heir" and *Ẹni Ọ̀wọ̀* "Man of God". The analysis reveals that the errors lead to misinformation especially about the cultural values that the films set to transmit and as such defeats the purpose of the subtitling. She is of the opinion that the errors are avoidable because they manifest as a result of the producers' non-mastery of the grammatical structures of Yorùbá and English languages.

The three chapters in section three are in Contrastive Analysis, these are chapter twenty-eight to thirty. The first chapter is written by Akinmurele. It is a contrastive analysis of coordinate structures, non-finite constructions and expletives in English and Edo. The author proposes that certain features such as the absence of serial verb construction (SVC), covert coordination, *to-inf/-ing* and *it/there* difference/distinction (in Expletives) which are characteristic of the English language are strange to Edo. Melefa gives a contrastive analysis of tense and aspect marking in English and Abinù, a Yoruba dialect, to enhance practical teaching and learning in chapter twenty-nine. The analysis reveals that while tense and aspect are marked in English through verbal inflection, they are marked in Abinù through the introduction of pre-verbal elements. In chapter thirty, Bamigbade sets out to investigate the phraseology of time among the English and the Yoruba speakers. He argues that lateness in keeping appointments among the Nigerian Yoruba might be related to the concept of exactitude, or the lack of it, and indeterminacy, in our expression and interpretation of time in our cultural and social life. Bamigbade concludes that the acute

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indeterminacy in the Yoruba time phraseological style implicates semantic tussle regarding the precise meaning or interpretation of several of the Yoruba time-names.

Section four also has four chapters on Lexical Development/Translation. These are chapters thirty-one to thirty-three. The first chapter is co-authored by Olubode-Sawe and Inya. It is on metaphors in medical terminology and their implications for terminology development. They describe the effort in the creation of obstetric terminology for use by community birth attendants. Their thrust here is to identify those discrepancies that involve incongruity in metaphorical extensions, (arising from incongruous concept relationships) and the use of equivalents without an eye to derivability or consistency. They conclude that the expertise of terminologists working closely with subject specialists is required to satisfy the need for useable terminology. Odoje, in chapter thirty-two, explores linguistics as the dual plane of theory and practice, by interrogating how PROLOG could be used to capture English/Yorùbá natural language syntax in a rule-based machine translation. The study reveals that the machine is able to generate sentences, break sentences into phrases and words in a bid to translate them in both languages. In the last chapter in this section, chapter thirty-three, Ijioma Ngozi examines the challenges of translating Igbo proverbs into English. She recognises that some of the Igbo proverbs do not have English equivalents because they are deeply rooted in the Igbo culture. The chapter concludes that translation mediates between languages, societies and literature, and it is through translation that linguistic and cultural barriers may be overcome.

Section five contains ten chapters on sociolinguistics from chapter thirty four to forty-three. In chapter thirty-three, Adeyemi critically examines the effects of poverty on language documentation with special focus on indigenous languages in Nigeria. He concludes that language documentation is a collaborative project and calls on the governments and well-to-do individuals to institute funds / grants for the documentation of the endangered languages in Nigeria. The focus of Otun in chapter thirty-five is on language of competition in the station-promoting jingles for radio among broadcasting stations in Kwara State, Nigeria. The thrust of the chapter is to investigate the language and the level of competition among them. The analysis reveals a high level of competition among languages, depicting the usage of language, inter alia, as an efficient tool for coping with the competition. The linguistic and non-linguistic features embedded in the composition and usage of jingles, depict the underlying issues beneath competition among the four broadcasting stations. Aziza, in chapter thirty-six, discusses the extent to which language contact has affected the phonology of Urhobo as spoken by young educated speakers aged between 10 and 25 years; all of whom are trilingual in Urhobo, Nigerian Pidgin and English. She concludes that although language change is an inevitable path for most languages of the world, the pace can be slowed down if parents create the enabling environment for their children to acquire their mother tongue very early in life and maintain its use in the home.

Bamgbade, in chapter thirty-seven, addresses various stake holders in the sphere of language studies to see to the preservation of the national and natural heritage of West Africa either by promoting a unified indigenous language and still making attempt to develop alongside other indigenous languages or absolutely protecting and preserving all the languages in a pluralistic language policy that will cater and provide space for all the West African languages in a proper language polity – linguistic pluralism. He agrees with Chumbow (1987) that 'the languages of a nation are its natural resources on the same level as its petroleum, minerals and other natural resources. Thus these languages can therefore be harnessed and developed, if carefully planned, for the overall interest of the nation'. Otherwise, multilingualism, like its twin-sister, multi-ethnicism, can be a source of disunity and strife in the politic of the nation. Indigenous language exclusion is the subject of discussion in chapter thirty-eight, authored by Ogunsiji. In the chapter, he examines the exclusion of the Yoruba language in the day-to-day linguistic interaction in the South-western part of Nigeria. He concludes that the necessary functional role to our indigenous language need to be accorded them since it is the anchorman for our culture.

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Emenike examines the provisions in the National Policy on Education (NPE) viz-a-viz their implementation and impact on the development of indigenous Nigerian languages in chapter thirty-nine. In the chapter, he looks at the legislative option for language planning in Nigeria. The recommendation is that the country should design and implement policies through legislation to retain English and at the same time preserve and develop indigenous Nigerian languages and the preservation linguistic diversity in Nigeria. Chapter forty is on the attainment of educational developments through the use of Nigerian indigenous languages. In this chapter, Chizobam ex-rays the benefits of using the mother tongue or the language of the immediate community (LIC) as a medium of instruction in the Nigerian educational system. She concludes that if the issue of mother tongue education is given the prominence it deserves in the Nigerian educational system, it will lead, not only to the improvement of the deteriorating standard of English, but equally to the overall improvement of education in Nigeria.

Oreoluwa discusses the endangered status of Nigerian Pidgin (NP) in chapter forty-one. He argues that NP is potentially an endangered language of, and in Nigeria because of the negative attitude to it by Nigerian elites, despite the fact that all-inclusive participation of the citizenry in democratic governance requires NP. He opines that the lack of the political will to put in place a realistic language plan for NP is tantamount to endangering the only language that is a national monument and the linguistic representation of the nation globally. He cautions that the government of Nigeria need not obliterate the only linguistic representation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the global linguistic map. He pleads that official documentation of Nigerian Pidgin should begin in earnest. Areo Abraham, in chapter forty-two, examines socio-semantic implications of Gbagyi names and their relevance to cultural promotion and identity of Gbagyi nation. He presents an insight into the structure and semantic values of Gbagyi personal names and the implication and importance of names to the bearers in Gbagyi language. Finally, in this section, Oluwadoro, in chapter forty-three, takes a look at new trends in personal names among Pentecostals in south western Nigeria. He observes that there is the tendency to place more emphasis on how names sound, rather than the meanings of such names, the aesthetic function has an over-riding precedence over other functions, such as religion, harmony with fathers' names, and family backgrounds. Even though, all these are reflected in the names examined, but the sound component is more pervasive than any other. He concludes that there is a subtle revolution in naming practices being precipitated/initiated by Pentecostal parents.

Section six, the final section, also has ten chapters on Culture, Literature and Gender. The first chapter in the section is authored by Aneni and Ai-Onyanabo. In the chapter, they discuss the rationale that instigated Hannibal's failure to deal a decisive and crushing blow on the Roman state and posit that the Carthaginian government's unresponsiveness towards Hannibal caused his failure. They concludes that Hannibal's failure was as a result of Carthage's lack of unity and purpose. Solomon-Etefia and Ikhimwin focus on the understanding of the prevention programme set up for the prevention of HIV/AIDS in chapter forty-five. Through diligent questioning of their data collected from students of Army Day Secondary School in Benin-City, they conclude that while the knowledge of HIV/AIDS as a disease is well known by the students, their understanding of the prevention and sensitization messages is considerably low. In chapter forty-six, Almajir employs computational techniques to model the way in which the brain gives rise to linguistic organization and processing. He concludes that the right hemisphere of the brain is deeply involved in the generation of cognitive phenomena, such as discerning figurative expressions and other problem solving activities.

Taiwo examines intertextuality from the didactic perspective of the works of ancient Roman satiric poets in chapter forty-seven. He contends that ancient *satura*/satire, as a work of literature, is a production of textual tissues comprising cultures, ideologies and artistic experiences. He points out that ancient writers participated in this mosaic of past citations by redistributing the text of the *mos maiorum* at their different levels. Differences in gender discourse behaviour in a

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Nigerian EAP reading classroom are the attention of Fola-Adebayo in chapter forty-eight. In the chapter, she investigates the influence of gender on the achievement of undergraduates in reading comprehension and attitude to reading. She concludes that gender has no influence on the achievement of undergraduates in reading comprehension though it had an effect on their attitude to reading. In chapter forty-nine, Shoja highlights the expected roles of the Tiv oral poet in the modern Nigerian society using the experiences of the social, economic and political realities of the Tiv people in Benue State. He opines that since the oral artist is a teacher and carrier of the people's values, hopes and aspirations, there should be objectivity and patriotism in the performance of his function in the modern society.

In chapter fifty, Mewhenu carries out an analysis of the contradictions in the philosophy, meanings, intentions and applications of a set of conflicting Yoruba proverbs with the aim of attempting a reconciliation of the contradictions in order to clarify them and thereby deepen the meaning and usage of such contradictory proverbs. He calls for the awareness of both expressive and regulatory proverbs, their side by side existence in the language, and awareness that an expressive proverb might have another proverb regulating it. Fasheun and Adenuga explain the role of folklore in teaching and learning in chapter fifty-one. They posit that folklore needs to be revived, revisited and employed in teaching and learning due to its role in the developmental programmes in the society. They conclude that without folklore a child's holistic growth may not be possible. They add that the ability to blend academic knowledge and traditional/indigenous knowledge for children will enable them grow up to become genuine personalities in their later years. Adekunle argues that "mono-cropping" is responsible for various corrupt practices of many Nigerian political leaders in chapter fifty-two. It has brought to life the concept of the "national cake" which inadvertently has made virtually all Nigerians gullible and unpatriotic. She frowns against the dependence on oil (mono-crop) and advocates for a diversified economy of Nigeria. The use of Yoruba proverbs is the focus of Oladokun in chapter fifty three. He examines how Òkédìjí uses proverb in his work as he draws proverbs from *Rẹ́rẹ́ Run*, *Àjà ló lẹrù* and *Àgbàlágbà Akàn*. This work concludes that Yorùbá proverbs are potent vehicles of communication.

The papers contained in this text are not a complete reflection of the diversity of the presentations at WALC/CLAN 2013 because: a) many of the papers failed to meet the content and quality requirements set by the editorial team. b) a good number of the papers had to be passed over to the executive of LAN on request, c) some of the papers contained distorted fonts which made correction difficult and research reporting incomprehensible, d) some conference participants out rightly failed to turn in the corrected versions of their papers.

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27 A Critical Analysis of the Lexico-Semantic Errors in the English Subtitles of Selected Yoruba Films

Abubakre Samiat Olubunmi (Mrs)

Abstract
Film is a powerful tool for the transmission of cultural values across borders. Most Yorùbá films that are subtitled in English are replete with linguistic errors that tend to defeat the purpose of the subtitling. The aim of this paper is, therefore, to identify, explain, evaluate and suggest ways to prevent further occurrence of such errors. The selected subtitled films are *Àkọ́bí Gómìnà* "The Governor's Heir" and *Ẹni Ọ̀wọ̀* "Man of God". The two films were selected because their themes bother on contemporary issues and they are likely to have had a large audience. The films were carefully watched with special attention paid to the English subtitles. Error Analysis serves as the theoretical framework for the analysis. The analysis reveals that the errors lead to misinformation especially about the cultural values that the films set to transmit across borders and as such defeat the purpose of the subtitling. The paper concludes that the errors are avoidable. Since most of these errors were made as a result of non-mastery of the differences in the structures and grammatical rules of Yorùbá and English language by the producers, the paper suggests that the producers devote more time to master the differences in the structures of the two languages, observe the rules that guide translation from Yorùbá into English in future productions in order to achieve the purpose of the subtitling and that there should be dialogue between the key players in film industry, namely, the film producers, professional translators and the movie scholars.
Key words: *Errors analysis, Film, Lexico-semantic errors, Subtitle.*

Introduction

Film is a powerful tool for the transmission of cultural values. It is a national as well as international industry. Arúlógun, (1979, pp.26-29), identified four areas where film as a tool for cultural identity can be useful to the society. According to him,

> ... film can be used as a propaganda by the government and others who are interested in subtle diplomacy; as a means of stereotype, through perspectives on a people's culture; as a medium of educating viewers about their culture as well as the culture of other countries and people; and as a means of promoting commerce, in this case making the film industry as a source of foreign exchange.

In Nigeria, until 1970 when the production of Nigerian feature film began, the cinema has always been the popular entertainment medium and the indigenous languages, mainly Yorùbá, Hausa and Igbo were preferred to English. Haynes, (1999, p.1) affirms that film production in Nigeria grew straight out of the Yorùbá Traveling Theatre, which was a popular drama created by the late Hubert Ògúndé. The midwife of the transition from stage to film was Ọlá Balógun who produced the first Yorùbá film Àjànì Ògún with Dúró Ládipọ in 1977, although the first Nigerian fictional feature film Kongi's Harvest, which was adapted from a play by Wọlé Ṣoyinka, who played the lead character (Haynes, 1999, p.3), was made in 1970. Other indigenous feature films in Yorùbá by Ògúndé like 'Aiyé' (1979), 'Jáyésimi' (1980), 'Àròpin N' Tènià'(1982), and 'Àyànmọ' followed. Moses Ọlálẹ́yá, popularly known as Bàbá Sàlá also contributed to this development with 'Ọ̀run Móoru' (1982) 'Mosebólátán' (1986) among others.

Also, Okeke (2007, p.138) further buttresses the above account on the emergence of the Home Video, that is also referred to as film in this paper, when he states that: "...it came as a child of circumstance in that producers and filmmakers resorted to the video out of the economic realities of the time". Indeed, Ayorinde and Okafor (1996, p.29) capture the phenomenon better in the following comment:

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> In Nigeria, the end of the oil boom meant the beginning of austerity and structural adjustments in several spheres of the economy. The money glut that followed prompted filmmakers to look for less expensive means of making film. This led to the conversion from shooting on celluloid to shooting on video.

In another account, Ekwuazi, (2002, p.67) also notes that:

> When the national currency was devalued, it became impossible to shoot on celluloid or sustain the theaters, cinema practitioners caught the wind of change triggered by the structural adjustment program. They went from cine to reversal stock film making in a smooth transition. When the practitioners noticed slight unease among the audience, possibly on account of mercurial colour scheme of the reversal film, they took quick refuge in the video file format.

The foregoing accounts showed that home video as an aspect of media drama gained prominence and popularity mainly due to economic and societal factors. This is because according to Okhakhu, (1993, p.96), "it is so compelling....an aspect of modern life that, not surprisingly, a number of people are irresistibly attracted to it". Although at the initial stage the industry faced numerous problems. As Onookome, (1999, p.26) noted, "...these problems overwhelm even the most tenacious of Nigerian film makers at one point or another. The problems were later surmounted and the industry flourished.

The increase in the production thereafter was as a result of the fact that the film companies discovered that there was more money to be made from film. Thus, as the theatrical tradition changed, the list of the viewers expanded and this necessitated change in the language to be used in order to cater for the non-Yorùbá viewers and also to guarantee commercial success. Thus, in 1990, directors like Tunde Oloyede, Ọlá Mákinwá, Ládi Ládèbó, Ọlá Balógun, Abíọdún Ọlánrewájú, to mention a few, realized the need to subtitle the films in English.

However, because of limited educational background of some of the filmmakers and lack of dialogue between key players during film production, avoidable errors are replete in most of the subtitled films. All kinds of errors ranging from lexical, syntactic, semantic, morpho-syntactic to lexico-semantic errors were identifiable in the selected films. But the lexico-semantic errors are the most frequent. In view of the fact that these errors tend to impart more on meaning communication than the other errors and because of the scope of this paper, only the lexico-semantic errors will be presented and analyzed.

Lexico-semantic errors are the errors resulting from wrong choice, omission, or additions of lexical items that can go a long way to change the meaning of the sentence in which they occur. These types of errors are mostly caused as a result of direct transfer of rules from the user's first language (L1) to the target language (L2), which gives a different meaning to the sentence or makes the sentence incomplete. In this paper, Yorùbá is the L1 while the English language is the L2.

As will be presented below, the English subtitles do deviate from the norm of the grammar of the native speakers of English due to influence from the native language of the film producers, the differences in the structures and grammatical rules of Yorùbá and English language, non-observance of the rules that guide translation from Yorùbá into English and lack of dialogue between the key players in film industry, namely, the film producers, professional translators and the Movie Scholars. As such, the purpose of subtitling the films in English, that is, to provide non-Yorùbá viewers with improved accessibility, is defeated. What then is the way forward?

As it has been observed, the growing availability of films in subtitled versions striving to provide audiences with improved accessibility, and the inherent vulnerability of subtitling as a mode of language transfer, means that the quality of subtitles, and the working practices of subtitlers as well as film producers should come under increased scrutiny. The purpose of this paper therefore is to proffer solutions to the identified errors by addressing the following issues:

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i. Find out the sources of the identified errors in the English subtitles of the selected Yorùbá films;
ii. Identify the nature of the errors and provide explanation for them; and
iii. Suggest the correct forms and ways to avoid further occurrences.

Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework for this study is eclectic. It is a combination of Error analysis as a theory and the principles guiding subtitling, an aspect of Audio-visual translation and a sub-branch of translation. Error analysis, its significance and procedures as well as subtitling are discussed in the next sections.

Error analysis (EA)

Error analysis (EA) proposed by Corder, 1974; revised, developed and improved upon by Theo, 1984; Selinker, 1994; Crystal, 1999; Brown, 2000; Corder, 2005; and Richards, 2006; among others, serves as the theoretical framework for the analysis. The major pre-occupation of the theory is to find out the reasons for the errors committed by learners of a second language, specifically, English or any foreign language that is learnt in addition to the mother tongue. It is also used to identify and analyze instances of deviation from the norm of the native speakers of the target language. It consists of a series of successive steps, namely, identification, description or explanation, evaluation and correction of errors (Theo, 1984; Selinker, 1994; Corder, 2005; and Richards, 2006 among others). Error analysis has been applied to several texts, both spoken and written. The theory is relevant to the present study because the focus of the paper is on the analysis of errors in the selected Yorùbá films that are subtitled in English. That is errors in the usage of English that is the target language or L2 in making the language of the film, Yorùbá, which is the source language or L1 accessible to non-Yorùbá audiences.

As noted in the foregoing discussion, Error analysis is an activity to reveal errors found in writing and speaking. Selinker (1994, p.210), defined errors as "red flags" that provide evidence of the learner's knowledge of the second language. Brown (2000, p.51) defined Error analysis as the process of observing, analyzing and classify the deviation of the rules of the second language and then reveal the systems operated by learner or user as in the case of the present paper. This definition is similar to the one proposed by Crystal (1999, p.135) which states that: "Error analysis is a technique in identifying, classifying and systematically interpreting the unacceptable forms produced by someone learning a foreign language, using any of the principles and procedures provided by linguistics". Richards (2006, p.125) states that: "Error analysis is the study of errors made by the second and foreign language learners". These definitions clarify that Error analysis is an activity employed to identify, classify and interpret or describe the errors made in speaking or writing; it is also carried out to obtain information on common difficulties faced in speaking or writing a Second language (L2).

Significance of Error Analysis

Learning as well as using a Second Language (L2) is a lifelong process and it is often a challenging experience for the L2 learners or users. Corder, 2005, pp. 255-257, observes that: "systematically analyzing errors made by L2 learners or users therefore makes it possible to determine areas that need reinforcement in teaching" and invariably to the usage in subtitling as focused in this paper. Therefore, error analyses are usually carried out in order to find out how well an L2 learner or user understands the rules of the target language and also to obtain information on common difficulties in language learning or usage, as an aid in teaching or in the preparation of teaching materials or providing insightful advice on English subtitles of Yorùbá films as the present study set to achieve. This author believes that the investigation of errors will continue to provide

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one means by which second language learning and usage are assessed to determine priorities for future efforts.

The procedures of error analysis

The procedures of error analysis have been discussed extensively in the literature with some variations. For instance, Corder (1974, p.32 & 2005, p.255) identified a model or procedure for error analysis to include three stages as follows:

1. Data collection: Recognition of idiosyncrasy
2. Description: Accounting for idiosyncratic dialect
3. Explanation (the ultimate object of error analysis)

Selinker (1994, p.64) identified the steps that should be followed in conducting an error analysis to include: Collection of data, identification and classification of errors. Ellis (1997, pp. 51-52) and Brown (2000, pp. 207-211) elaborate further on the procedures and gave practical advice using empirical data on how to identify and analyze learners' errors. The initial step requires the selection of a corpus of language followed by the identification of errors. The errors are then classified. The next step, after giving a grammatical analysis of each error is the explanation of different types of errors. These procedures as summarized in the following diagrammatic presentation are adopted for the analysis of the identified errors in this paper:

Identification of errors
↓
Explanation of errors
↓
Evaluation of errors
↓
Correction of errors

Audio-Visual Translation (AVT): Subtitling

In addition to the procedures of error analysis that are discussed in the preceding section, the requirements or principles guiding subtitling are also employed for adequate analysis of the errors. González, (2011, p14), describes subtitling as "a sub-branch of translation, which comes under audiovisual translation". He states further that: "... subtitling consists of the production of snippets of written text (subtitles, or captions in American English) to be superimposed on visual footage – normally near the bottom of the frame – while an audiovisual text is projected, played or broadcast".

González, quoting (Gottlieb, 1997) adds that, "...so far as subtitling involves a shift from a spoken to a written medium, it has been defined as a 'diasemiotic' or 'intermodal' form of audiovisual translation". There are interlingual, bilingual and intralingual subtitles according to González. The interlingual subtitle that is the focus of this study "provides viewers with a written rendition of the source text speech, into a language of wider communication, like English" (2011, pp. 14-15).

Some of the basic requirements that govern subtitling include the fact that each of the fragments into which subtitlers divide the speech must be delivered concurrently with its written rendition in the target language via subtitle. And also given that: "...people generally speak faster than they read, subtitling inevitably involves ...technical constraints of shortage of screen space and lack of time" (O'Connell, 1998, p.67).

Furthermore, subtitles composed according to widely accepted spatial parameters contain a maximum of two lines of text, each accommodating up to 35 characters (Karamitrouglou, 1998). However, Titford (1982) comment that: '...the actual number of characters that can be used in each subtitle,depends on the duration of the corresponding speech unit' provides room for relativity. All

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these are the requirements that a good subtitle must fulfill and we have observed the films under study satisfied these requirements.

There are many scholarly studies on subtitling of films in the literature. For instance, in a study titled "Foreign Subtitles Help but Native-Language Subtitles Harm Foreign Speech Perception", Mitterer and McQueen (2009) investigated whether subtitles, which provide lexical information, support perceptual learning about foreign speech. In the study, Dutch participants, unfamiliar with Scottish and Australian regional accents of English, watched Scottish or Australian English videos with Dutch, English or no subtitles, and then repeated audio fragments of both accents. The study revealed that repetition of novel fragments was worse after Dutch-subtitle exposure but better after English-subtitle exposure. They therefore drew the conclusion that Native-language subtitles appear to create lexical interference, but foreign-language subtitles assist speech learning by indicating which words (and hence sounds) are being spoken. The study demonstrated that the understanding of foreign speech is difficult, in part because of unusual mappings between sounds and words because it is known that listeners in their native language can use lexical knowledge (about how words ought to sound) to learn how to interpret unusual speech-sounds.

Also, Pybus (2013) using German romantic-comedy, *Das merkwürdige Verhalten geschlechtsreifer Großstädter zur Paarungszeit* (literally: *The strange behaviour of mature city dwellers in mating season*, also cited as *Love Scenes from Planet Earth*), released in 1998 and directed by Marc Rothemund, focuses on the need for a translator to preserve the comedic aspects of the source in the target, affecting both audiences in the same way. She pointed it out that many obstacles may prevent this aim from being fulfilled. According to her, one common problem facing the translator/subtitler is the variety of comedy used in the film; it may be very culture-specific, or, as we will see here, it may be based around the use of language. In the Nigerian scene, subtitling of films is yet to receive the desired attention. This study is therefore an attempt to encourage more studies on several issues emanating from subtitling of films.

Presentation and Analysis of Data

Before the presentation of the data, it is pertinent to present a brief summary of the selected films.

A brief summary of the selected films.

The first film, titled *Àkọbí Gómìnà* 'Governor's Heir', is about the political story which mirrors the lust for power by an African leader who was rejected by majority of his people as a result of his callous and corrupt leadership. In the film the protagonist, the President, was portrayed as having consideration for the wellbeing of his family as he was all out to win the election despite the threat from the opponent to his family. Even when his son was kidnapped he went out on his campaign programmes unruffled. With his immediate family in danger, all that matter to him was power.

The second film Ẹni Ọ̀wọ̀ 'Man of God, is a story of insincerity and deceit on the part of the 'supposed man of God,' that deceives and blackmails people all in the name of religion. It is the story of a couple who were happily married before the prediction of Ẹni Ọ̀wọ̀ "Man of God" that sets the family apart. Despite the wife's sincerity and loyalty to her husband, the Man of God made endless prophesies to blackmail her in order to destabilize the family so that he could gain monetary advantage from his close relationship with the man. The husband was also too gullible to believe him even when all the lies were never confirmed. However, in the end the Man of God paid dearly for his deceit when a member of the woman's family who had suffered same from the Man of God's deceit intervenes.

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Lexico-Semantic Errors in the selected Films

Below we present the identified lexico-semantic errors in the English subtitles in tabular form, in line with the steps or procedures proposed in the chosen theoretical framework, error analysis as discussed above. Data 1-6 are from Film1: Àkọ̀bí Gómìnà "Governor's Heir" while 7-12 are from Film2: Ẹ̀ni Ọ̀wọ̀ "Man of God". Since Lexico-Semantic errors are focused in this paper, the section on the source or type of the errors is omitted in the analysis to avoid repetition.

S/N	English Subtitles	Explanation	Correction
1.	*It turned other way round.	Determiner 'the' is omitted.	It turned the other way round.
2.	*What if they rig election?	Determiner 'the' is omitted.	What if they rig the election?
3.	*Probably it's change of atmosphere that affected them.	Determiner 'the' is omitted.	Probably it's the change of atmosphere that affected them.
4.	*I am no longer going abroad.	The adverb 'back' is omitted as a result of analogical transfer	I am no longer going back abroad.
5.	*That's what we have come to deliberate	This is a deviation from the norm of English language	That's what we have come to deliberate on / discuss
6	*You no longer cared and behave your normal ways.	This overgeneralization of tense marking and omission of the preposition	You no longer care and behave in your normal ways.
7.	*Why have you gone to complain about me in the presence of the pastor?	Direct translation from Yorùbá to English language of the phrase 'ní ojú' as 'in the presence of'	Why have you gone to complain about me to the pastor?
8.	*You got no other person.	The progressive verb was omitted as a result of lack of its equivalent in Yorùbá.	You've got no other person
9.	*I was surprised to see vehicle slowed down.	Omission of the determiner 'the' and addition of the past tense marker '-ed' in slow	I was surprised to see the vehicle slow down
10.	*I am supposed to be the one to against it.	Error due to direct translation of the sentence from Yorùbá into English.	I am supposed to be the one against it/ I am supposed to be against it.
11	*I believe you aren't leave soon.	Error in the use of present tense instead of present continuous tense.	I believe you aren't leaving soon.
12	*Go purchase a return ticket for me to go bring her for you.	The conjunction 'and' was left out in 'Go purchase' and the second 'go' need not be repeated as it has been used in the first part of the sentence.	Go and purchase a return ticket for me to bring her for you.

Table showing the Lexico-Semantic errors in the selected Films

Discussion of the Findings

The table above consists of samples of the lexico-semantic errors in the two films under study. Examples 1-6 are from the first film, Àkọ̀bí Gómìnà "Governor's Heir" while 7-12 are from

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Ẹni Ọwọ "Man of God". The errors attested in 1-3 are clearly omission of the 'determiner', which in English is very important. But because it is absent in the system of the Yorùbá language, there was a transfer of the mother tongue influence in the subtitles. This results in incorrect sentences as found in the examples.

In 4-6 examples there are addition and omission of prepositions resulting from analogical transfer. The error in sentence 4 is made as a result of analogical transfer; since it is commonly said that *I'm going to Lagos, to London,* etc, it was thus assumed that 'to abroad' was also appropriate. For example, *I'm traveling to Lagos, to New York, to London* is correct but to say *I'm travelling to abroad* would be incorrect. This is because in the former case the names of the towns were specifically mentioned while in the latter the place was not mentioned but was just described.

The error in 5 is an instance of deviation from the rule that requires that some verbs must be used with the verbal participle otherwise there would be a change in meaning or the sentence would be ambiguous. Here 'deliberate' was used as 'discuss' or any other verb but 'deliberate' requires a verbal participle here to make complete sense. It requires the addition of 'on' or 'upon'. Hence, the corrected form: 'that's what we have come here to deliberate on'.

7 is a clear error of Mother tongue interference. The mother tongue of a second language user of the English language negatively influences his or her spoken or written English. The error results from direct translation from the mother tongue to English language. 'In the present of' was used here to replace 'to' which was actually meant. 'In the presence of' was translated from 'ní ojú' making the sentence incorrect.

In the verbal system in English language, we have the modal progressive and the perfective verbs. These three elements might not be compulsorily present but at least a verb must be included in the sentence. However, there are some instances whereby the three might be used or two out of the three might be used. In the sentence above only 'get' was used in the past tense form but the progressive verb was omitted probably as a result of the unavailability of the same system in the mother tongue. In sentence 8, only 'get' was inflected for past. The progressive was omitted probably because it is not attested in Yorùbá language.

In (9a), there was an omission of the determiner 'the' before vehicle. Also the '-ed' in 'slowed' was not supposed to have been added. This is also due to mother tongue interference. The error in 10 also results from the direct translation of the sentence in Yorùbá into English language. Most L2 users of English, who do not master the rules properly, translate the mother tongue directly into English language which affects grammaticality of the sentences thus formed. 'to' was added to the sentence thereby making it incorrect. It could also be suggested that 'be' should be added after 'to' so that we can have 'to be against it'.

Sentence 11 is an instance of wrong use of tense. The subtitler seems not to be aware of the fact that a verb's usage varies according to the linguistic context. When a verb is in company of some words, it takes a form and the same verb takes another form when found in company of other words.

In sentence 12, there is the omission of conjunction and repetition of the verb 'go' that is already in the first part of the sentence. Conjunctions are very important in compound sentence in English. When left out, the sentence would be incomplete. However because Yorùbá allow serial verbs in compound sentence without requiring the addition of conjunction there is a direct transfer of rules from L1 to L2.

Conclusion and Recommendation

This paper has focused on the analysis of lexico-semantic errors in two selected Yorùbá films in Nigeria. It was discovered that the errors occurred as a result of transfer of some rules from the producer's mother tongue, Yorùbá to the target language, English, and this affects or hinder effective communication of the messages in the films to the target audience and as a result defeat the purpose of subtitling. The conclusion in this paper therefore, is that these errors are

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avoidable if the Yorùbá film makers, directors and producers master the differences in the structures and grammatical rules of Yorùbá and English language and observe the rules that guide translation from Yorùbá into English. The writer is of the view that there must be dialogue between the key players in film industry, namely, the film producers, professional translators and the movie scholars. There is also the need for the film producers to observe the ethics of subtitling such as an enhanced post-production script-vetting.

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