

Dimensions Of English Profiles And Implications On Language Contact And Accommodation In Nigerian Communication

QUEEN U. NJEMANZE Ph.D. ¹, CHINOMSO P. DOZIE Ph.D.²,
MARK C. ONONIWU Ph.D. ³

^{1,2,3}DIRECTORATE OF GENERAL STUDIES,
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, OWERRI
IMO-STATE NIGERIA.

ABSTRACT

The increased contact between communities and countries induced the virality of English labels and variants. This was because of the enhanced need for people to communicate more, thereby creating the need for foreign language learning in recent times. This also increased the need for using a common code (accommodation) with the English Language, in communication. This development brought to the fore the highly dynamic roles of English and demonstrates impressive linguistic awareness based on the dimensions of English (New Englishes) in the world. This paper thus, analyses these dimensions of English as a contact language in Nigeria and the impacts the various accommodation strategies adopted in communication had on interaction within the Nigerian environment. The theory that underpins this research is Speech Accommodation Theory (SAT) which is more recently referred to as Communication Accommodation Theory (CAT), proposed by Giles, (1973). This theory provides a framework that explains the reason behind some communication realignments/accommodations that help to sustain interaction in individual communications, with key concepts of convergence and divergence. This paper concludes by affirming that since the English language has been an important tool in global communication and linguistic expansion the many variants and labels attached to the language, should be accepted, and enhanced as functional impacts of communication in the present century.

KEYWORDS: English; Language; Communication; Contact; and Nigeria.

1. INTRODUCTION

The key feature of human language is dynamism. Language is never static because of constant changes. Globalization has expanded the various means of communication thereby making people from different parts of the world speak in similar ways, using the most preferred language, English. The English language has always been used to fulfill the need for global communication. English

has been taught all over the world as a foreign language with many people speaking it as either a second language, other languages, or a lingua franca. The large number of English language speakers has therefore increased the need for foreign language learning. There is also the incorporation of English among the diverse linguistic and cultural groups in the world which created room for “New Englishes”. This expansion has been induced by globalization thereby enhancing the spread and growth of English as a shift from the many voices.

Globalization is a multidimensional phenomenon that is peculiar in academic circles; it accumulates meaning as it expands. It shares an interrelationship with the English language because English is used in global communication. The spread of the tenets of globalization is also the spread of the English language. Thus, the term “global English” informs the current state of English as a language that is not mainly reserved for any race or country. English is a linking language across the world.

The major thrust of this paper is therefore to examine language issues in the Nigerian environment, the major roles of English as a global language, and the diverse perceptions of English in the global era. This paper concludes by affirming that the global influence on the spread of English should be seen as a positive influence on language expansion because the various categories of “New English” are intelligible and relevant to users.

1.2.English Language in Nigeria: Issues and Concerns

Nigeria is a multicultural and multilingual nation with an estimated population of Nigeria has an estimated to be over 225 million people, according to the National Bureau of Statistics Nigeria, (2023). It is situated in the Western part of Africa. It has three major ethnic groups namely Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba. There are also minority ethnic groups which include Delta State, River State, and Cross River State, with various categorizations on the number of indigenous languages. Heine and Nurse (2000), Bamgbose (1993), and Lewis (ed) *Ethnologue* (2009) posited between 400 and 520 indigenous languages existing in Nigeria. A country with this type of linguistic situation is bound to be problematic. Often, issues of the language to adopt for official purposes and the ones to neglect arise. Nigerians are known to demonstrate linguistic attachment to their ethnic language (ethnicity) thus, in order not to breed agitation or conflict from the minorities, whose indigenous languages are not used in official proceedings in the country.

There has been continued dependence on the use of the English language for wider communication in Nigeria. Language is a productive phenomenon that occupies space; it does not take place in a vacuum. Language is usually contextualized; it is situated within a social or cultural setting to interpret a society’s tradition and culture. It is usually described as a system of sounds by which humans communicate. Language does not only represent speech, it also shows different orientations.

It serves as the base for comprehensive education in Nigeria. English is used from the pre-nursery to the higher level. It is also used as a program of study in Nigerian institutions. Literacy attainment

in Nigeria is dependent upon education which in turn relies on the English language (Njemanze 2012_a: 68-69). The government communicates with its multiethnic and multi-lingual population using English.

English has been the language of wider communication. Its entrenchment has remained unchallenged in the Nigerian environment, and this has given the English language a pride of place. English has been used to simplify communication around the world. In Nigeria, there is no viable alternative to the English language because of the multicultural and multilingual nature of the country hence, the use, spread, and relevance of English has become a major factor in the nation's survival.

1.3.The Theory (Accommodation Theory)

Speech Accommodation Theory (SAT) which is more recently referred to as Communication Accommodation Theory (CAT), includes a wider range of factors That show how different levels of accommodation can occur in communication. Communication Accommodation Theory (CAT) provides a framework that explains the reason behind some communication realignments that help to sustain interaction in individual communications. Such as variation in the use of different ranges of linguistic, prosodic, and non-verbal features. Communications are accommodated in different ways which impact our actions in English language communication in Nigeria and beyond. Speakers change the way they speak - in face-to-face interaction. A speaker's attitude towards another speaker in conversation can influence the way (s)he talks.

The two key concepts of SAT/CAT are convergence and divergence. However, among the different accommodative strategies that speakers use to achieve these goals, convergence has been the most extensively studied – and can be considered the historical core of CAT (Giles, 1973). It has been defined as a strategy whereby individuals adapt their communicative behaviors in terms of a wide range of linguistic (e.g., speech rate, accents), paralinguistic (e.g., pauses, utterance length), and nonverbal features (e.g., smiling, gazing) in such a way as to become more like their interlocutor's behavior. This brings to the fore Giles, H., Coupland, N., & Coupland, J. (1991), description of accommodation as the constant movement toward and away from others, through a change in one's communicative behavior. A review of the related literature below will showcase diverse impressions on the subject matter.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The advent of English Nigeria is associated with colonialism. As a multilingual nation, English is used both as a second and the major official language in all communication. It plays a significant role in the nation's communication sphere; hence, it is prominently used in education, administration, government, trade and commerce, legislation, judiciary, and even politics. English has been made the major prerequisite for students to gain admission into the nation's tertiary institutions.

There are two linguistic strategies that are applied by interlocutors to denote the general directions in which accommodation can take place in a speech situation. The basis of the theory lies in the idea that people adjust (or accommodate) their style of speech to one another. Communication in Nigeria shows an individual's identity such as socioeconomic, religious, and cultural identities different from that of another individual, these differences affect the English language too. The key concepts in this study are peculiar to the following.

- Contact between two language communities who are eager to retain their native language and can only borrow relevant items from the English language to aid their communication.
- Contact between speakers of adjacent languages over a prolonged period also facilitates the gradual process of language convergence.
- Again, contacts because of intermarriage or family mixing between speech communities facilitate language convergence.

In other words, sometimes our communications are driven by our personal identities. Thus, in Giles, H., Coupland, N., & Coupland, J. (1991), opinion, expressed above, the constant movement toward and away from others, by changing one's communicative behavior, is called accommodation.

Michie (2011) also explained linguistic divergence and Convergence. According to the author, linguistic divergence is a deliberate attempt by speakers to maintain or increase their linguistic differences. A speaker uses accents to distance him/herself from his/her conversation partner, a deliberate attempt to 'purify' a speaker's language. While Language convergence is created because of the increase in the similarity of features between neighboring languages mainly due to various processes of language mixing, such as 'slang', borrowing, and more. Linguistic divergence induces the desire to adopt other styles of communication to prove their independence, while convergence constitutes a linguistic, accommodative, process that enables a speaker to modify his/her own speech to resemble more closely the speech of the person he/she is communicating with, divergence moves in the opposite direction in order to make his/her speech sound more unlike that of the person (s)he is talking to.

2.1. SOME ENGLISH LABELS IN THE PRESENT CENTURY

The recognition that English is no longer the sole property of its native speakers brought about variance in use and a shift in terminology in the language. English has been transformed into several distinctive varieties around the globe. Below are some of the labels used in describing English in the global era.

- New English (es)
- International English
- World English (es)

- Global English

2.1.1. New English (es) (NE) According to MC Arthur (1992:688) this term generally refers to emerging varieties of English in non-western settings such as Nigeria, India, or Singapore”. New English(es) according to Kachru (1997a:212) “symbolizes the functional and formal variations, divergent sociolinguistic contexts, ranges, and varieties of English in creativity, and various types of acculturations in parts of the western and non-western world.

New English is used in varied settings such as literature, media, government, advertisement, and more. It is a nativized language of users. It accommodates some linguistic features which vary from British or American norms. There is a significant difference in the intonation of users or pronunciation patterns and a slight difference in grammar and sentence structure. New English accepts different words and expressions which include borrowing from contact languages. Proponents of new Englishes in Nigeria include Akere (1982), Bomgbose (1982), and Jibril (1982). These scholars proposed the acceptability and recognition of new Englishes.

2.1.2. International English (IE) This kind of English has been used to mean English for specific purposes (ESP) or a register of English. It has been variously used in different ways, some of which were contradictory. However, IE emphasizes a kind of English used as a lingua franca for communicating basic information in a simplified form and in a set-out context. It is mostly used by people who need access to international scholarship, policy-making and administrative bodies, commerce, and technology that do not use English as a community or national language (see Johnson 1990).

In the words of Widdowson (1998:400), international English has been described as a “composite lingua Franca which is free of any specific allegiance to any primary variety of the language” These impressions give an overview of what international English depicts. International English thus, provides the core of English which is common to users globally.

2.1.3. World English (es) (WE) The term world Englishes came up as a replacement for international English. It is considered a “more universal term which explicitly acknowledges the planetary reach of the language” (McArthur 1998:86). The term suggests a global dominance by English- and English-speaking countries thereby reducing the relevance of other languages. World Englishes symbolize English as a world language which has given users the opportunity to maintain stable multilingualism or bilingualism. It also allows change and creation of new varieties which has resulted in Englishes.

2.1.4. Global English (GE) The evolution of globalization attracted much attention to the point that it has become a point of global consciousness. Global English is seen as the language that has attracted the reformation processes, largely because globalization is the process of change. Global English thus, refers to the worldwide use of a language that attaches no special consideration to

users around the world. It is the English language used by people of different ethnicity in any international setting. It is intelligible to any race or individual users. (Njemanze 2016).

2.2. MAJOR ROLES OF ENGLISH AS A GLOBAL LANGUAGE

The importance of English as a global or international language has created room for a large variety of speakers of the language across the globe. In the words of Njemanze (2012b), many diverse groups have and use different tongues, yet the English language stands tall in the global village (657). The nationwide spread of English has made it impossible for most countries including Nigeria to choose another viable alternative.

Although most nations recognize English as an international language, they do not have a history of colonization, nor have they given English any special status.” (Crystal 1997: 54) This population of speakers has the fastest-growing speakers of English around the globe. Thus, the knowledge of English languages according to Dom (2003) enhances the following,

2.2.1. Access to knowledge and modernization

According to Pennycook (in Burns and Coffin 2001:85) the spread of English has facilitated the spread of the discourses and agendas coming from the inner circle: It is in this sense that the world is in English. The potential meaning that can be articulated in English is interlinked with the discourses of development, democracy, capitalism, Modernization, and so on.

Again, most scientific, industrial, and technological., breakthroughs have come from the West, with technology being extremely influential having between 80-85% of all scientific and technical information available in the world today, either written or abstracted in English.” (Kaplan 1987:139). Hence, the global importance of English in an era of mass Communication, the leading-edge in information and communication technology, the users are required to read and understand English for international exposure:

The influence of the internet has played a tremendous role in spreading information and the English language: “Nine out of ten computers connected to the internet are located in English-speaking countries and more than 80% of all homepages on the web are written in English, “(BBC News 2001) Therefore, modernization, despite possible resentment from non- Western people, is closely tied to Westernization and, by extension, to the availability of the English language. Most countries also have little choice but to bring English terms into their own languages to express new technical terms.

2.2.2. Education and Career Opportunities

Students learn English to perform functional roles in their everyday lives. Because books of higher education and many doctoral theses are written in English and top research universities use English, it is necessary for university students to have a high understanding of written English. With the

internationalization of business, politics, and academics, “ English is increasingly used at the university level to equip graduates to function effectively in the global competition for capital and customers “ (Huntington 1996: 63) In other countries such as Korea many study English primarily for better career opportunities, which is not surprising since “ more than four-fifths of all international organizations use English as either their main or one of their main operation languages.” (BBC News,2001: Para 2). Thus, good knowledge of English paves two ways for a good job

2.2.3. For Relaxation and Entertainment

Speaking English is not only an educational academic skill but also a cultural aspect of life associated with culture. The presence of English is also used at many other levels. Advances in transportation have made international travel a reality, and the tourism industry has continued to expand with English being the preferred language in use.

However, while exposure to Western culture may contribute to changing ethnic social attitudes, “entertainment ... does not equate to cultural conversion. People interpret communications in terms of their own preexisting values and perspectives”. (Huntington 1996: 59). The English language also fulfills most of the roles it plays as an international language but has additional functions not usually found in the expanding circle,” (Crystal 1997:54)

2.2.4. Creation of New Languages

Some people learn English as an additional or second language and use oral and vernacular Englishes which are mixtures of Standard English and local languages. In the words of Crystal (1997:9) “When communities begin to trade with each other, they communicate using a simplified language, known as a pidgin. Pidgin combines elements from their different languages”. This new language can even become a native language (or Creole) for some speakers. Pidgins are used to fulfill narrow functions in the restricted set of domains that have a simplified structure and a smaller vocabulary than fully developed languages.

In other words, the widespread status of the Pidgin is an indication that “English is no longer the sole property of native speakers. English users have gone through the processes of acculturation and nativization and have achieved tremendous diversification of the English language into many new varieties known as “New Englishes”.

2.3.CLASSIFICATIONS OF THE ENGLISH USED IN COMMUNICATION IN NIGERIA

English has become an international language used in multinational and multicultural communication, with numerous indigenous languages and a multiplicity of the cultures of the different peoples of the world that speak it. There have emerged many forms of the English

language which are identifiably different from each other. Such forms as American English British English, Indian English, West African English, and more have emerged.

This trend has led to the use of a new lexicon, World Englishes to refer to the different forms and varieties of the language. Although English may not be the official language in many countries, it is currently the language most often taught as a second language around the world. Because of that global spread, English has developed a host of English dialects and a host of English-based Creole languages and pidgins.

Languages in contact are bound to develop variations; this is because such languages are forced to accommodate the variations of locality. Since English is the language of the world, it is no longer the possession of the British, and a non-native speaker is not subject to English assumptions of correctness. As the spread of English progresses, English is bound to reflect a diversity of disparate cultures since no language is used to its maximum, except its native speakers.

The existence of different varieties of English could therefore be attributed to the multiplicity of the culture of the different peoples of the world that speak English. Although no variety is clearly considered the only standard, there are several accents considered more formal, such as Received Pronunciation in Britain or the Bostonian dialect in the United States of America. In his words, Kachru (1977) advised that for any variety to be regarded as standard, Variety should be assessed from the point of view of relevant factors of appropriateness, acceptance, and intelligibility.”

The implication is that the existence of such varieties of English creates difficulty for the second language learner, but when learned, it enhances the effective use of the language. Again, because of the aforementioned factors, there have been cases of borrowing, confused linguistic allegiance, and interference phenomena. In terms of the first, a second language learner is faced with the task of acquiring communicative competence in a language that belongs to an entirely different society and culture.

There could emanate cases of the interference of the mother tongue on English and this could affect the learner’s performance in the target language. This is one of the problems Nigerians are facing because their mother tongue interferes with the target language. Since English is a global language, this paper examines the various classifications of English; they can be classified into the following categories.

2.3.1. English as a Mother Tongue (EMT)

A mother tongue is the only language of a monolingual person which is acquired naturally in his native environment and meets all his linguistic needs. English being a world language serves as the first language or MT in some countries such as Britain, the USA, Australia, and more.

2.3.2. English as a Foreign Language (EFL)

This is a situation where the users learn English as an additional language and use it when necessary, especially outside their countries. Such countries include China, Japan, France, Germany, Saudi Arabia, and Spain.

2.3.3. English as a Second Language (ESL)

English is used as a second language in a country that has other indigenous languages, English is used compulsorily in official and public affairs hence English performs two different roles as a primary and secondary language.

2.3.4. English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

As an academic language, it is used in the transmission of knowledge and instruction. It transmits knowledge to students which in turn develops them. It also helps learners develop fluency in language expression which instills confidence in the learners to communicate to the outside world. This view is supported by Hermer (1990) who identified the variety of needs of the English language in the achievement of the new millennium literacy goals. The needs include: -

- English as the target language (ETL)
- English for a special or specific purpose (ESP)
- English for school curriculum (ESC)
- English for advancement (EA)

These needs are unique, and they will help learners accomplish their communicative tasks, academic expectations, and needs for interaction and job advancement. However, in the context of this article, it is important to add a brief examination of Nigerian Pidgin (NP) and its impact on English language communication in Nigeria.

2.4. NIGERIAN PIDGIN ENGLISH (NPE)

According to Njemanze 2014, Pidgin is a blend of indigenous languages of the West African coast and English. The contact of English with Nigerians brought about a simplified form of English known as “pidgin”, Pidgin, however, is regarded as the corrupt form of English because its grammar is very different. It has no defined standard grammar or model. According to Bamgbose (:13) Pidgin is a contact English. Nigerian Pidgin (NP/NIGP see Njemanze 2014) has been more tolerated in multi-ethnic communities such as Nigeria than in monolingual ones, this also influenced its spread. Nigerian Pidgin is learned and used informally in Nigeria in a conscious attempt to participate in the communication process in its multilingual society. Thus, the simplified structure of Nigerian Pidgin and its adaptability to local situations make it possible for both literate and non-literate Nigerians to use it in communication. There is thus, the need to examine the major roles of English as a global language.

3. METHOD

The existence of different varieties of English could be attributed to the multiplicity of the culture of the different peoples of the world that speak English, and diverse factors such as cases of borrowing, confused linguistic allegiance, and interference phenomena. The second language learner is therefore, faced with the task of either acquiring communicative competence in a language that belongs to an entirely different society or blending his/her communication with their ethnic, and cultural knowledge into their communication. This problem is peculiar to Nigerian speakers of English because their mother tongue interferes with the target language.

Hence, the researchers observed and interacted with some people from different ethnic regions in Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria to elicit information used in this study. Information was randomly collected through participant observation based on the major and minor ethnic regions' discussions in different settings. Since analysis relies on interaction, observation, and listening to conversations, the data collected is analyzed based on simple qualitative categorization of societal, cultural, and environmental usages.

4. DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

4.1. The English Language, Impacts of Language Contact, and Accommodation in Communication

Language contact and language accommodation are dynamic and complex issues in linguistics. They can simply be described as the combination, and adaptation to the use of more than one language in the same environment, and at the same time. While accommodation adjusts their knowledge state in order to match the information that a speaker's, language contact according to Njemanze, (2019 and 2020) manifests itself as individual, institutional, or state bilingualism. This level of bilingualism begets a linguistic level known as 'semi-lingualism' or 'interlingua'. An instance is in a university environment where the best hair stylist is from a different ethnic group from that of the student whom she/he is dressing the hair; since both cannot understand each other; they must also communicate 'somehow', because language contact most often involves face-to-face interactions among groups of speakers. They agree to adjust to a central point of understanding of what needs to be done.

The essence of public communication concerns the creation of awareness which may require communication modification. This often induces positive interaction among people, especially in a country such as Nigeria which is marked by both individual and societal multilingualism. Multilingualism can transcend all barriers and bring about a unifying force even in the 'face' of diversity.

The current Shifts in the usage of the English language have induced changes that have been variously described by scholars. These terminologies have posed ideological difficulties for linguists, Holland (2002. 21) stresses, "It is no longer admissible simply to accept as a given, the

status of English as prime international tongue: a critical appreciation of its roles, and a critical approach to English language pedagogy, are indispensable”. This expression exposes how the dimensions of English have changed simultaneously with the growing awareness of globalization. The recognition of other varieties of English in the present era as well as its continuing spread has encouraged a linguistic approach that accommodates the re-branding of the multiple uses of English around the globe. Thus, the result of this shift is prominent in the words of the following scholars.

- “The meaning of English has changed” because it is a “transnational or international medium for the great majority of users” and its national users are the exception rather than the rules” (Bowers 1999: 243)
- “The closing decade of the 20th century marked a major change in the worldwide perception of English” (McArthur 2001a:7)
- “There is no English language anymore..., the English language that we think of as a global thing is something totally different” (Cox in an interview with Dale and Robertson 2003: 16-17). These impressions have brought to the fore the global expansion of English as a language that has helped many nations shape their linguistic code and identities.

There is an emphasis on equity and single common citizenship in multilingual Communication which creates interrelationships between culture, language, plural identity attachments, and community relationships. In Nigeria, words are borrowed to make up for the communication pressure mounted on the people (Nigerians) because of British colonization and their reluctance to use other people’s languages (Njemanze, 2014).

Language contacts are rated differently and could bring; extreme language mixture (resulting in pidgins, creoles, and bilingual mixed languages) language death, and language change. Most common among these features is language change which exists largely due to influence on one of the speaker’s languages(s), dominated by the influence of borrowed words. Language contact thus begets linguistic constructs such as linguistic divergence, language convergence, and (or) shift, which reflects the theory of this study. This has enhanced multilingual literacy in Nigerian environments’ (see Njemanze, 2014, and 2019), especially through Nigerian Pidgin usage.

Based on the expressions of convergence and divergence as stated above, contact between ethnic groups may compel one group to abandon their native language to align with the communication style of the other person while another person will want to bring in his/her ethnic and cultural pattern in communication. This process of language mixing prompts language shifts. Language shift results when a speaker learns the native language of their new environment which is induced by the desire to communicate in their new environment. Below are different illustrations showing the impacts of the English language on communication in Nigeria.

4.2. The English/Nigerian Pidgin Examples

4.2.1. Politeness and Respect: In Nigerian Pidgin, modes of address are formalized to reflect age and social status in the Nigerian environment. Certain epithets, phrases, and words are used to show respect in NIGP in line with the cultural norms and the social relatives of the users. This is prominent in the following expressions in the student's speech patterns because they are expected to sustain their cultural orientation while speaking a foreign language, English.

“Baba-ekaro Sir” (Father good morning, Sir)

“Dadi ejoo...” (Daddy please)

“... our Presido...” (Our President)

“Sori Ma...” (I am sorry Madam)

“Ok ma” (it's all right madam)

These expressions show respect and are created by NIGP speakers.

4.2.2. Solidarity and kinship terms:

These features complement each other. Solidarity is often expressed to reflect deep family ties and relationships for persons who do not belong to such a category. Such examples are.

“Who no sabi de gai...” (who does not know the boy)

“...our presido...” (Our President)

“Baba” (Father)

“Dadi” (Father)

“bebi” (Girl)

“Ma” (Mother)

“broda” (Brother)

“boi” (Boy)

“Aboki” (A Hausa boy or friend),

“Alhaji” (Man)

4.2.3. Greetings:

Nigerian cultures place emphasis on greetings; thus, the various greeting patterns seen in Nigerian Pidgin replicate numerous indigenous greetings for different occasions, yet these greeting patterns have English translations. Below are some examples.

“Well don-o” (Well done)

“Go well-o” (Safe journey)

“Haw tins?” (How are you fairing?)

“Haw pikin dem” (How are your children?)

“Grit mama fo me –o” (Please give my regards to mother)

“una don kom-o” (You are welcome)

4.2.4. Nigerian Pidgin English is also prominent in our church songs.

Thus, it is common to hear gospel songs such as:

- ‘Dis kin God –o, I never see your kind-o, dis kin God-o, u-ar a miracle God.’ (I have not seen such an amazing God)
- ‘Abi you no know sey Jehova na God...?’ (Don’t you know that God is the Supreme King).
- ‘People dey ask me say, na wetin dey mak me fine, I just dey tell dem say, na Jesus dey make me fine...’ (People are asking me: who is your God)

Other examples include statements that convey communication understandable by everyone in the society that have blends of the English language but cannot be used in official situations.

“... militants senio Boko Haram” (Militants are not matched to Boko Haram’s antics/militants are more dreadful),

“Shain yo ai welu welu” (Be careful),

“...dem don fence im ai” (They have blinded him)

“No be onle to roast dem ... fri-dem...” (We will gun them down with ease)

“...arangee...” (To organize an illegal deal),

“...you no fit chop yo kek, hola-m” (You cannot eat your cake and have it),

“... “yu dey loaded” (To be well prepared for an examination or to be financially buoyant)”

“Our staff de fall awa hand...” (There is no breathing space for examination malpractice)”.

“Kola no dey kworel wit aligeter pepe” (Kola nut does not quarrel with the alligator pepper, there is always an understanding between the two)

“Kpokpo gari no dey swell fo notin” (Nothing happens in a vacuum)

5. CONCLUSION

The discussions above indicate the need to value every variety of language that makes communication easier in society because there will always be the need for accommodation in language communication. Although language is important to human communication, the English language stands out as the major language of global communication. The current perceptions of English in the present era are evident in the changes in usage and names given to worldwide English. The various terms used to describe English shows the open arms of English in accommodating these varieties. Native and non-native speakers have command over the English language thereby making it mean many things to many different people around the globe.

Also, the various classifications of English in the Nigerian environment and the impacts of accommodation on contact language such as Nigerian Pidgin (NP) on English language communication in Nigeria, have also enhanced the perceptions of the English language in the global era. English has continued to be one foreign language that serves as the first language, second language, other languages, and lingua franca in modern times, The upsurge of the many new varieties of the English language, and the various accommodations, that are brought into ease

communication, should be accepted as a trend that portrays all round creativity in linguistic expressions and as an answer to the quest for a common code of communication around the globe.

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