

Review of: "Beyond the Translation of Initial Meaning: The Localization of Yoruba-bound ICT Terminologies"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Review Report for the Manuscript: "Beyond the Translation of Initial Meaning: The Localization of Yoruba-bound ICT Terminologies"

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Manuscript Summary

The manuscript investigates the localization of ICT terminologies into the Yoruba language, using a theoretical approach based on Bell's (1991) linguistic and psycholinguistic model. The goal is to adapt English terminologies to Yoruba, considering cultural and linguistic differences, to enhance accessibility for Yoruba end-users.

Decision on the Manuscript

Recommendation: Revision with Major Revisions

Critical Aspects of the Review

Theoretical Framework

Critique: While the theoretical framework employed is relevant, its application seems outdated given the rapid advancements in the field of localization and information technologies. There is a lack of incorporation of more recent theories that could provide additional and more contemporary perspectives on the subject.

Suggestions for Change:

1. **Update the theoretical framework** to include theories and models of localization developed post-2000.
2. **Incorporate recent case studies** that have employed modern localization techniques.

Update of Sources

Critique: The references are mostly outdated and do not reflect the current literature on localization and technical translation in multilingual and cultural contexts.

Suggestions for Change:

1. **Incorporate recent literature** to ensure the study reflects the current state of knowledge in the area.
2. **Add references from empirical studies** that address ICT localization in other minority languages to compare methodologies and outcomes.

Methodology

Critique: The methodology lacks a robust empirical component, which is crucial for validating the proposed translations and localizations in a real-world context.

Suggestions for Change:

1. **Incorporate an empirical study** that includes usability testing or interviews with Yoruba end-users.
2. **Provide a detailed description** of the methods for selecting and evaluating terminologies.

Data Analysis

Critique: There is a lack of empirical data supporting the claims about the effectiveness of the proposed translations.

Suggestions for Change:

1. **Perform statistical analysis** on acceptance and understanding of the translations by users.
2. **Study user interaction** with localized terminologies through observations or activity logs.

Ethical Considerations

Critique: The study omits a discussion of ethical considerations related to research in specific linguistic communities.

Suggestions for Change:

1. **Add a section on ethics** describing how ethical aspects were handled, including informed consent and community involvement.

Quality of Discussion and Conclusions

Critique: The conclusions are limited by the lack of empirical evidence and might not accurately reflect the reality of implementing the translations.

Suggestions for Change:

1. **Strengthen the discussion section** by connecting findings to empirical evidence.
2. **Clarify the limitations** of the current study and how future studies could address them.

Limitations and Future Perspectives

Critique: Limitations are not adequately addressed, and future perspectives lack an empirical framework.

Suggestions for Change:

1. **Explicitly detail the limitations** of the study, including methodological ones and those stemming from result generalization.
2. **Propose future research** based on identified limitations, focusing on empirical and collaborative studies with the Yoruba community.

Conclusion

This manuscript makes a valuable contribution to the study of ICT terminology localization for Yoruba speakers. However, to reach an optimal level of academic rigor and practical applicability, substantial revision is essential, incorporating updated theories, robust empirical methods, and a more thorough approach to ethical and practical considerations. With these enhancements, the study could significantly impact the target community and the academic field of translation and localization.