

# Review of: "Lexico-Syntactic Study of English Usage in Online News Responses and Their Implications for 21st-Century Pedagogy"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article is well-written and follows the principles of a good research paper.

The introduction gives an excellent background against which the research was done and presented. The observed problem, i.e., that the linguistic features of Nigerian English differ from those of Standard English, is clearly presented and supported with examples. This is followed by two clear objectives of the paper.

The literature review provides an overview of the attitudes to English as the official language in Nigeria and its position as the savior of the language situation, as it was impossible to choose one of the three existing languages in Nigeria as the official language of the country. However, Nigerian English differs from Standard English as it has incorporated elements that are culture-specific for Nigeria, leading to four varieties of English spoken in this country.

The methodology applied was a descriptive survey of the online Opera news. This included an analysis of readers' comments on online news articles that deviate from Standard English. The attempt was made to identify the features of English which reflect the English usage of Nigerian users on the Opera news platform in order to explain how people use English, the differences in Standard English usage, and its implications for 21st-century pedagogy.

The research was based on Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar, which describes language in use and is therefore an adequate framework for this kind of research.

The Findings and Discussion section is well-organized, offering a lot of examples that support the author's objectives. This includes the following parts: 1. Code-switching and code-mixing; 2. Translation equivalents; 3. Metaphors and idioms; 4. Semantic extensions; 5. Absence of punctuation and distorted spelling; 6. Deviant use of grammar; 7. Coinages.

An important part of the paper is the section Implications of English Usage in Online News Responses for 21<sup>st</sup> Century English Pedagogy, which sets the ground for work with students in order to become aware of the differences between Nigerian English and Standard English.

The conclusion of the paper summarised all the ideas expressed in the text.

I therefore believe that the paper meets the requirements necessary for publication. I recommend publication of this paper without changes.

