

**A CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE SENTENCE  
STRUCTURE OF ENGLISH AND IGARRA LANGUAGES**

**BY**

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**BEING A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
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## **CERTIFICATION**

The research project has been duly supervised and approved as having fulfilled one of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Arts (B.A. Hons) degree in English Language of Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto.

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## **DEDICATION**

This project is dedicated to God Almighty, who made it possible for me and my dearest father Chief Godwin Olowojoba. May you live long. (Amen).

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

My profound gratitude goes to the Lord almighty for sparing my life to accomplish this project. I give you all the praise, honor and adoration because you deserve the praise. I give you thanks for the privilege to study in the most peaceful university in Nigeria .I came, saw and conquered. It is an honour to be a student of Modern European Languages and Linguistics Department (MELL)

I am grateful to my supervisor Mal Sulieman. I. Gatawa for creating time despite his tight schedule you still create time to supervise and correct this work to this stage. I am grateful for your fatherly guidance. May God bless, strengthen, keep you and grant you your heart desires.

I cannot forget to thank my parents Chief & (Mrs) Godwin Olowojoba for their prayers and support both morally and financially. I would not have achieved this feat without your support which started right from the day I was born. May God keep you to reap the labor of your hands.

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I want to use this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to all members of Godwin's Family. My thanks and love also goes to my big aunty Mrs. Sarah Maxwell for her contributions in this project. May god almighty grant you your heart desires.

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## **ABSTRACT**

This research work is divided into five sections. Section 1- 5 and are referred to as Chapters wheel the last part deal with bibliography. The first chapter is background of the study, statement of the problem, statement of hypothesis, purpose of the study, significance of the study and lastly scope and limitation of the topic. The third chapter is concern with Data presentation and the methodology used in carrying out the research findings, population of the study, sampling techniques, source of data collection, tools of data collection, method of data analysis, All procedures followed in data collection are described. The fourth chapter deals with the data analysis. Some of these have been shown clearly in table form while the rest appear in sentences in the form of analysis. The fifth chapter being the last chapter of the research report is composed of the summary, conclusion and recommendation of the research report. The last part of the research work is the bibliography.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter concentrates on introduction of the research, background to the study, aim and objectives of the study, statement of the problem, significance of the study, scope and limitations of the study, research question, definition of terms and conclusion.

### **1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY**

The most basic purpose of language is communication, and communication can be transactional or interactional. However, different languages have different forms and structures. It is in view of this that the research intends to look at the sentence structures of English and Igarra languages. The studies that have been carried out on the two languages vary a great deal. English language has a lot of materials on studying the sentence structure unlike the Igarra language which was not touched until the twentieth century. Therefore there are few works done on it and most of the materials are in form of seminar papers that have not yet been published.

Nigeria is without question, a multi-lingual society due to the existence of many languages. The number of languages present in Nigeria has been estimated to lie between 360 and 400. Olaofe, I.A. (1982) put the number at 394. Among them are Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba, which are recognized as the three major languages, while Tiv, Epira, Idoma, Nupe, Igala, Fulfulde, Ijaw, Efik, Ibibio, Itsekiri are minor languages in Nigeria.

In this study, attention is focused specifically on the contrastive analysis of the sentence structures of English and Igarra languages. Adeyanju, T.K. (1978) Contrastive analysis is concerned with the similarities and differences which result from the comparison between the two different languages. This is done by looking at the structures of the sentences of the studied languages.

Before going into the main body of the work it is of paramount importance to look at historical profiles of Igarra speakers. Apart from being the name of the language, Igarra, is the headquarters of Akoko Edo Local Government Area which is

today the oldest in Nigerian Federation. Igarra which is otherwise known as Etuno has a very congenial and serene atmosphere as it is nestled among large boulders and exotic greens which explain why the chief occupation of the people was and remains farming though it is fast becoming unfashionable as Igarra has had its own brush with urban drift. It is estimated that more than 75% of its sons and daughters live and work outside the town.

Igarra is a unique town in Edo state as it shares and has little in common with any other in the state. Its history, language and cultural heritage has nothing to do with those of neighbours as close as Enwan, Somorika or even the Uneme people. It has been established that Igarra people have a common ancestry with the Igalas and the Igbiras of Kogi state, even as there are no other theories as to the origin of the Igarra people but the former remains more plausible and has become widely accepted. The others are largely myths and legends unsubstantiated with little or no shred of evidence.

Below is a list of some basic greetings in igarra language:

HELLO – CHAO

GOOD MORNING – YENNE

GOOD AFTERNOON – YANRODU

GOOD NIGHT – ADUFUO

GOOD BYE – NAVE

WELCOME – KANE

WELL DONE – KORO

Furthermore, Igarra speakers or Etuno are mainly Christians. They pre-dorminate in Akoko-Edo local government of Edo state, Nigeria.

Knowing and understanding the sentences of any languages is of primary importance and a foundation to anyone who wants to get to the task of the structural analysis or study of any portion of the sentences.

## **1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. One of the objectives of this study is to identify the links or similarities in English and Igarra language sentence structures.
2. It is also the aim of this project to look at how the verb of each of the languages operates.
3. It would also make a syntactic analysis of the two languages.
4. It follows therefore that this piece of work would be important for language teaching and as such create better Igarra speakers of English language.

## **1.3 STATEMENT OF TE PROBLEM**

The statement of the problems is to make a contrastive analysis of the sentence structure of English and Igarra language by looking at the aspect of both of them.

The study also attempt to analyses how the two languages are structured.

#### **1.4 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

This research will benefit the students of language, especially those who are concerned with grammar and the field of structural analysis of language. This is because it will provide them with an example of how different findings of the field can be exploited to examine a form of language in use. Also the research will serve as a source of further study of this nature. This research will look among other things at the form and sentence structure of both English and Igarra languages, by analyzing the structure of phrases, clauses, and sentences of languages.

#### **1.5 SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS**

This research is limited to only the contrastive analysis of the sentence structure of English and Igarra languages. The data collected for this research are from grammar books and native Igarra speakers.

#### **1.6 RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

To guide our research into the problem highlighted earlier, research questions are formulated as follows:

- i) Is there any syntactic difference between Igarra and English language as far as sentence structures are concerned.
- ii) Is there any difference between the sentence structures of English and Igarra languages?
- iii) What are the similarities / dissimilarities between the two languages (English and Igarra)?
- iv) Is use of tenses in English and Igarra languages the same?

### **1.7 DEFINITION OF TERMS**

The following are the definitions of some key words in the context in which they are used in this work.

- i. **SENTENCE:-** The traditional, or common sense of definition states that a sentence is a group of words that expresses a thought. The problem comes in defining what a thought is. The phrase an egg expresses a thought but is it a sentence? A sentence like I closed the



door 'because it was cold' expresses two thoughts and yet it is one sentence.

- ii.       **CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS:-** Contrastive analysis is concerned with the similarities and differences which result from the comparison between two different things. Banjo, A. (1969)
- iii.       **STRUCTURE:-** These refer also to the way in which the parts of something are connected together, arranged or organized. In other words it is how things are organized according to some kind of principle or pattern.
- iv.       **GRAMMAR:-** This refers to the rules in a language for changing the form of words and joining them into sentences. In other words, grammar is the rule governing the use of language.
- v.       **ENGLISH:-** Is the language of Britain, Ireland, American, Australia, and some other countries.

- vi. IGARRA:-** Igarra is the language of Etuno and Igarra people in Edo State.

## **1.8 CONCLUSION**

In this chapter we have seen the background to the study, significance of the research and the research question. Importantly in this chapter also scope and limitation, statement of the problems and definition of terms were also discussed.

However, in the next chapter the research will dwell on the review of the related literature.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

#### **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter is concerned with review of literature related to the broad area of the study i.e. English and Igarra languages as well as, How the sentences of both languages are constructed and analyzed.

#### **2.1 ENGLISH SENTENCE STRUCTURE**

Sentences in English language are formed by the careful arrangement of the words according to the syntactic or grammatical rules of the language to get intended meaning. Such sentences are said to be grammatically correct or meaningful.

The syntactic rules that are responsible for the construction of different kinds of sentences in any language can be referred to as ‘phrase structure rules’ that give necessary explicit explanation of the sentence structure. Huddleston (1976:47) points out that; “the phrase structure grammar”, consists exclusively of phrase structure rules and assign to each sentence a syntactic structure in form of a single phrase marker (PM) (except in the case of syntactically ambiguous sentences.)

While the Transformational Grammar (TG) consists of a set of transformational rules and assign to each sentence a series of phrase markers

varying in the level of abstraction involved. A ( phrase marker) or tree diagram as it is sometimes called consists of two dimensional arrangement of labeled NODES connected by lines or branches. The top most node, labeled S, (sentence,) is called root. For many two nodes A and B lines on the shortest path joining B to the root node or if A is itself the root, the nodes which do not dominate any others are the TERMINAL NODES immediately dominated by S(subject).

The constituents of sentence and their rules of combination are the phrase structure rules.

A sentence may be written as a Noun Phrase (NP) and a Verb Phrase (VP) that is symbolized as:

$$S \longrightarrow NP, + VP$$

Subsequently, the Noun Phrase (NP) may be an Article (art) followed by an optional Adjective (adj) and a Noun (n) or a Pronoun.

$$NP \longrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Art (adj)} \\ \text{Pronoun} \end{array} \right)$$

The next is the verb phrase (VP) which consists of either just a verb or verbs optionally accompanied by a Noun Phrase (NP) or an optional Prepositional Phrase (PP)

VP → V (NP) (PP)

Finally, Prepositional Phrase (PP) has a Phrase structure rule which implies that it may be a Preposition (P) followed by a Noun Phrase(NP).

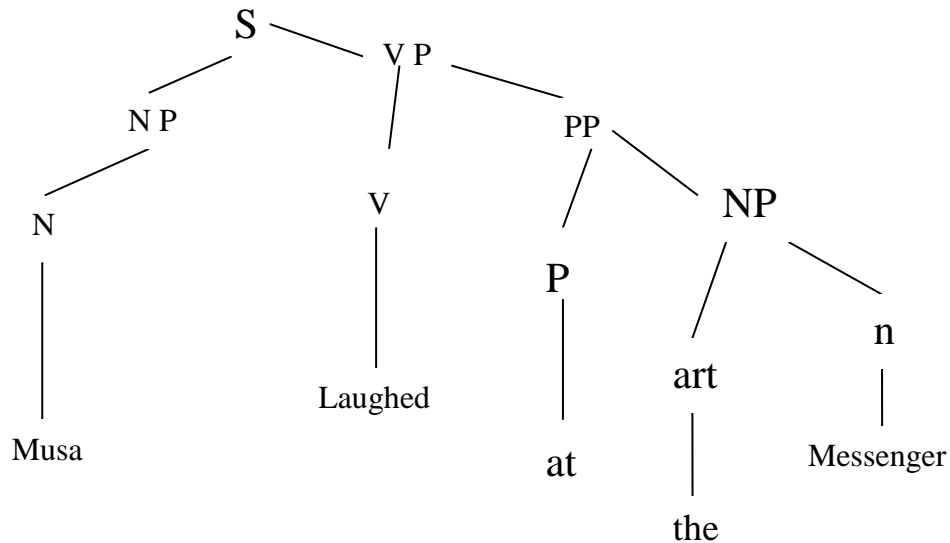
PP → P → +N

These constituents can further be put in the form of a tree diagram putting each lexical item under the structural node it belongs. This is done by the use of lexical insertion rules. Various tree diagrams can be drawn in relation with these for example, the sentence below:

Musa laughed at the messenger

S → NP + VP  
 NP → art (adj) n  
 NP → n  
 VP → V (NP) (PP)  
 VP → V(PP)

PP → P NP  
 NP → art (adj) N  
 NP → art n  
 N → Musa, messenger  
 V → Laughed  
 P → at  
 Art → the  
 n → messenger



## 2.2 CATEGORIES OF ENGLISH VERB

In the English language, there are various types of verbs that may occur in different sentences. Some sentences may consist of the head verb only or the head verbs, may be accompanied by the object or complement. Such verbs can be categorized according to their behavior in relation to other elements that make up the sentences, most especially object and complement. They are:

**A. Mono-transitive verb:-** They permit the use of a direct object in a sentence as in:

She slapped her

‘Her’ is the direct object”

i.e. the recipient of the action directly

**B. Di-transitive verb:-** They permit an indirect object as in:

He gave the girl a small ball

**C. Complex transitive verb:-** they permit object complement, few verbs have these form. For instance.

“They elected him as the chairman this morning” The action is performed by the subject and the post of the “chairman” is the complement of the object “ Him”

**C. Intensive verb:-** they permit subject complement in a sentence e.g

He is a doctor

The subject is complemented as a doctor

**D. Another form is called intransitive verb:-** they do not permit the object form or complement as in:

She sang all day

There is no complement, no object we have only subject verb and adverbial.

### 2.2.1 THE VERB PHRASE

The verb element is always a verb phrase Banathy, A. (1969) there are different types of verbs that exist in the English language. Among these verbs are: The fall or lexical verbs that consist of regular verb forms, and the auxiliary verb forms consisting of modal auxiliaries.

Lexical verbs: walk, sit, stand, play, sing etc.

Auxiliary verbs:

Primary: be, have

Modal: will, shall, can, may, must;

### 2.2.2 LEXICAL VERB

The morphological forms of the lexical verbs in English range from five in the regular to eight in the irregular verb. They are:

Regular - call, calls, calling, called.

Drinks, drank, drinking, drunk.

Irregular – be, have, do; among which “be” has eight forms.

They are: be, am, is, are, was, were, being, been, with regards to the morphological form of the regular verbs. The ideal way to handle them is to describe the verbs in terms of the base s-form, ing –form and ed-form. Most of the English verbs belongs to these category and can easily predicated from the base. Corder, S.P. (1967) have given to us a clear example of these verbs as seen below:

#### i) **S-form**

This is predicable from the base verb and indicates the present tense. It is written as –s and es in the suffix and pronounced as /zi/ and /s/ for example:

/s/ Jumps, skirts

/z/ Does, sees

/iz/ clinges, matches

#### ii) **Ing-form**

These form is directly added at the end of the base verb.

Come –coming

Sing – singing

Causing the deletion of “e” in the first one some consonants, can also be doubled in the process for instance: bar – barring

#### iii) **V – ed**

It has a past tense form. For instance:

Call – called

Slap – slapped

Play – played



It is similar to the V eds though there are some aspects that differentiate between the two; the V –ed is the perfect form of V –ed.

### Drank – Drunk

About seven differences have been pointed out by Corder S.P. (1967) between V –ed and V –ed2.

The verbs may be summarized as below.

V	V-S	Ing	V –ed	V –ed2
Come	comes	coming	came	come
Spin	spins	spinning	spun	spun
Speak	speaks	speaking	spoke	spoken
Think	thinks	thinking	thought	thought
Build	builds	building	built	built
Cry	cries	crying	cried	cried

The irregular verbs functions both as auxiliary and lexical verbs.

They are: have, do, and be.

These verbs take the lexical form because ing can have the –s form.

- Ing – participle and ed – participle as for instanced;
- |      |      |        |     |
|------|------|--------|-----|
| do   | does | doing  | did |
| have | has  | having | had |

The verb ‘be’ has the same number of forms but becomes irregular because it has got the – Ing for as in ‘being’.

They vary depending on the person they are addressing to, either first, second or third persons. Further as we treat the auxiliary verbs especially the primary modal auxiliary, we will see more about the irregular verbs.

### 2.2.3 TENSE OF THE VERB

This is a very important aspect of the verb phrase. It ranges from a fixed time for the action into the present and the past tense, or the progressive and the future time duration. In English these are referred to as the present tense, past tense, future tense and the progressive. These tense forms relate to the various actions that are taking place in relation with time of action. Tense here is seen in relation to the various functions that deal with time aspect.

#### PRESENT TENSE

<b>Forms</b>	<b>Uses and examples</b>
-Habitual use	He who hesitates is lost
-occurs in imperative	Sit down
-unrestricted use or timeless	No limitation of time but expressing state, e.g. Honesty is the best policy

## PAST TENSES

<b>Forms of Verbs</b>	<b>Uses and Examples of Sentences</b>
-Denotes simple past	-She clapped her hand.
(what has taken place in the past)	-He ran to school
Sequential past (takes place gradually)	-The hen laid an egg.
	-She smiled and collected the baby.

## PROGRESSIVE TENSE

<b>Forms of Verbs</b>	<b>Uses and Examples of Sentences</b>
-Denotes perfect progressive	I saw her eating
-Shows current relevance of the action	He was eating my chocolates

## FUTURE TENSE

Forms	Uses and Examples
Future in present	It is going to be dusty
Present future (represents future happenings in the present)	He is moving to Kano

### 2.2.4 AUXILIARY VERBS

The form of auxiliary verbs are possibly twelve with about twenty eight to thirty variations. There are also about four characteristics of the auxiliary verbs. They are; negation, inversion, code and emphatic affirmation. Odlin, T. (1989) The term auxiliary verb is mostly used by the Traditional Grammar, who refer to it as universal classification. They serve various functions in the language having the finite verb forms. The finite verb has the capacity to show tense distinction and mood. The non-finite verb form does not possess this capacity. There are two types of auxiliary verbs according to syntactic classification, they are:

- i. The primary and modal auxiliaries

## **2.3 IGARRA SENTENCES**

The sentences in Igarra language can be grouped into two. They are: verbal and non verbal sentences. A sentence as already mentioned when treating the English verbs is a string of morphemes that are put together in a certain way that corresponds with the rules of the language. These rules are what linguists refer to as syntactic rules. The morphemes are the constituents of the sentences. Later as we go on, we are going to see into the possibilities of applying the phrase structures rules as one in the case of the English sentences.

### **2.3.1 VERBAL SENTENCES**

The verbal sentences are sentences that contain the verbs in form of verbal root or verbal complex, and is similar to the English verb phrase . It is made up of a verbal root plus a tense suffix symbolized as (TS) and a pronoun. It is important to always remember that the constituents of the verbal complex are morphologically independent to one another. To be able to distinguish between the constituents, hyphens will be used.

Lado, R. (1957) gave a number of characteristics of the Igarra verbal sentences. She pointed out that:

a. The verbal sentences contain a verbal complex or are in some cases made up exclusively of them for example.

-ma-da-ife-shi-re

I trouble him

b. The consonants of the verbal complex alternate that is, they are sensitive to the number and position of their subject for instance:

Mai- shi- anwa-ni

I fear it

(I fear it )

c. The existence of the verbal complex permits them to express properties of verbal categories; they are mood, voice, polarity, activity continuousness and aspect.

d. They can change into their negative form which is expressed through the negative suffixes.

Ozi vi vereyi she yu

He get used not it

(He is not getting used to it)

A zero subject is also found in affirmative imperative verbal complexes.

Ezi ene ekuete a nai shi

Children raise then go

(The children got up and went home. Nai shi has zero subject (Q) in the surface structure but has ekuete in its deep structure as one of the preceding verbal complexes.

The sentences in this group, are similar to the English language sentences. It is from there that we can get a neutral Igarra sentence, that can take the structure of a noun phrase (N.P) plus a verb phrase (v.p)

There exist the neutral sentences in Igarra. The neutral verbal sentences, have the subject of the sentences preceding the verbal root but in the non-

neutral sentences, the subject does not precede the verbal root except in sentences, with the third person.

In the remaining forms of the non-neutral sentences the structure is in such a way that the verbal complex precedes the noun. The possibilities of applying the phrase structure rules to the neutral sentences in Igarra language proves to be more successful than that of the non-natural sentences. Before then, we are going to see the characteristics of the Igarra non-verbal sentences.

### **2.3.2 NON- VERBAL SENTENCES**

The non-verbal sentences may found or unfamiliar to some one who is familiar with the English language especially the native speakers . The learners of Igarra language however, think of the sentence of having verbs in their underlying structure.

The type of sentences, are characterized as verbal sentences, that do not contain a verbal complex, though, they are often equivalent to sentences containing an overt popular verb.



Adeyanju, T.K . (1979) refers to the terms as consisting of subject plus complement plus an optional (adjunct).example is;

Musa      Onuya

Musa      poor

(Musa is poor)

S          C

Looking at the non-verbal sentences types, it was deduced that, for instance in the attribution sentences, the deep structure, most probably consist of popular verb “wave” and in some cases they consist of a subject.

The structure is in the form of the subject followed by a nominal that expresses quality.

**Example;**

	<u>Ovovu ene-vi</u>	
	They    white	
	(They are white)	
S		N

Has a deep structure as:

Ovovu ene vi bo

They are all white

A second type of none verbal sentences is the identification sentences.

They are referred to as non-verbal sentences when they contain dum and wondon. They have some properties of verbal sentences. In the case of consonant alternations, in relation to the subject.

They do not therefore qualify as verbal sentences, for instance,

Ada mi Otaru ani Igarra

Father my Otaru of Igarra

(My father is Otaru of Igarra)

The third type of sentence is where the existential and locational verbs are used. They involve the use of don and doo. Don is morphologically a member of the locative adverb which also includes izo (there) and izonani (here). Izonani means present, around and in existence.

The sentences below, illustrates this:

Oyi izo na ni

it here

(It is here)

Lastly the non-verbal sentences can take the negative form. We are going further to see the possibility of phrase structuring the two types of sentences that exist. There is another minor type of sentence that does not carry either the subject nor the object. It is just the verb that describes the event. This type of sentences is common. In the expression of temporal and metrological phenomena. The words could be said to be a way of representing redundantly and they are conventionally accepted names for the phenomena. They are;

Ekushi oyan ozi na (A day has gone)

Umorishi ozi ve (Wet season has come)

They can only stand as sentences depending on the context of speech, because when the nominal is added to them, they loose their ability to stand as exclusively verbal sentences. Some sentences are paratactic. But important as the parataxis are researched not be treating them in details and will restrict my analysis with English to the other types of sentences. The

parataxis can briefly be said to be clauses joined to form sentences without the use of conjunctions. Examples are:

- No ofu – shi uyi malu , va rema -ve, rashi
- Went market bought i cow returned I home
- ( I went to the market and bought a cow and I returned home with it).

Ufuo mi va na za ma di me re  
Tomorrow i go i test it i see  
(Tomorrow i will go and test it and see)

Three types of sentences have been treated so far, two major and the

last a minor one. They are verbal sentences, non-verbal and exclusively verbal sentences.

## **2.4 CONCLUSION**

In this chapter we have seen and discussed the English and Igarra sentences structure based on the material available for it. Equally the chapter discusses the categories of English verbs, and tenses.

However, the chapter also talked about Igarra sentences, the verbal and non-verbal sentences of Igarra language. In the next chapter, the research will focus on data presentation.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION**

#### **3.0 INTRODUCTION**

In the previous chapter we discussed the literature related to this study. However, this chapter will focus on the various methods used in the collection of data and the data collected will also be presented.

#### **3.1 POPULATION OF THE STUDY**

Population of this study includes all written and spoken sentences in both English and Igarra languages.

#### **3.2 SAMPLING TECHNIQUE**

The sentences used as data for this study are selected from written materials and utterances made by speakers of both English and Igarra languages.

The criteria used by the researcher to conclude on which sentence to use is to simply select from the written and spoken sentences which the

researcher comes across while reading or conversing with the speakers of the languages. Such sentences can therefore be simple or complex.

### **3.3 SOURCES OF DATA COLLECTION**

In spite of the fact that there are many scholars who wrote on the subject matter but for the purpose of better and meaningful research, there are other sources among which are: consultation of various related materials, such as books, projects, utterances of the speakers of the two languages.

### **3.4 TOOLS OF DATA COLLECTION**

Since the data is sourced from two different media (spoken and written), different tools were as well used for its collection.

In the case of written sentences, the researcher simply copied them from their original sources. The spoken sentences on the other hand were tape recorded and the

### **3.5 METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS**

As the topic requires i.e a contrastive analysis of the sentence structure of English and Igarra Language. Phrase structure rules are going to

be used in the analysis of the sentence structures of the two language. When that is done, the similarities and differences will manifest and form the final result based on which conclusions can be drawn.

**ENGLISH SENTENCE**

**IGARRA SENTENCE**

i. Musa laughed at the messenger

Bello a Suara

(Bello sleep)= Bello is sleeping

ii. He is a Doctor

Ovovu ene vi

(They white)= They are white

### **3.6 CONCLUSION**

In the previous chapter we have seen the literature related to this study. In this chapter we have discuss the various ways used in collection of data and the sources, also in this chapter we have presented the raw material. However, in the next chapter we shall focus on data presentation and analysis.



## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS**

#### **4.0 INTRODUCTION**

In the previous chapter we have discussed how data were sourced. However in this chapter we shall focus on data interpretation and analysis.

#### **4.1 CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS**

The English and Igarra language differ in various aspects; socio-economics; cultural features and geographical location.

Right from the beginning when we treated the structures of sentences of the two languages, we noticed variation in the type of sentences they have. Igarra has two major divisions, the “verbal” and “non-verbal” sentences with one minor class of verbal sentences. The English language on the other hand, has a major verbal sentence that has a subject, a verb and an object sentence. Though, the language may have an imperative sentence where the verb alone stands as in;

Come here!

Sit down !

Yatu  
Sit down

Wana  
Go !

The syntactic form of the sentences in both languages differs in many ways.

In English, the sentences may be simple or complex ones made up of a verb or a group of verbs that are independent of one another in word for instance;

A verbal complex that consists of other appendages like a pronoun.

O- ve  
(He came)

The morphemes in the verbal complex are morphologically and phonetically interdependent on one another.

The verbs in both languages permit the sentences to express properties such as; voice, polarity, stativity continuousness, mood and aspect.

Furthermore, the verbs express negation, through the use of the suffix ‘not’ and the “not” in English.

The Igarra type of non-verbal sentences do not contain the verbal complex, though they resemble sentences that possess the popular verb. They contain a popular verb in their deep structure that is similar to the English popular verb sentences. The sentences are used for identify, locative and existential expressions.

Lexical: base; s-form, Ing participle

Ed-participles and ed2-participle:

Auxiliary: be, have, do

May, can shall, will, ought.....

The lexical verbs are capable of showing or indicating the time of an action. For instance, there is the present tense, past tense, and the future tense. The present tense in this language, functions as past and present future.

The past tense form, indicates simple past, limited in the past, sequential past, habitual past, past perfective and past progressive all in relation with time and aspect. The Igarra present past form corresponds with the English simple past, present perfect and future perfect as regards the

general past. In the language other functions of the verb are that, it provides explanation after an inquiry, functions as subject of a sentences in a clause, as qualifiers and also represents the subject of a sentences and object in some sentences.

The future aspect denotes a time of action in the future. This action may be in the present future or past future from the present time of utterances. In both language, it performs various functions. In English, the future denotes present future and future past.

The Igarra counterpart of the English future indicates intention; present future, past future, habitual future or normal practice and functions as qualifiers and relative adverbials.

Furthermore, there is rule progressive aspect that functions as continuous aspect indicating perfect progressive in the English language. Part of the progressive verb is the stative verb which I will not dwell upon, likewise the Igarra progressive has present past and future progressives which serve different purposes.

It is interesting however, to mention that, the English auxiliary verb has no counterpart in the Igarra language.

### GENERAL FUTURE

USES OF TENSE	EXAMPLE OF SENTENCES
Indicate intention or expectation	Ini rayi ononi mi va jantu siuta.  (This year I will pay quickly.)
Indicates present future	Uwa ye kova ni no ofu irajini.  (Do you know whether she will go to the market today?).
Indicates the present future	Ireru va ni kebbi doza va kayimi ki wa va rema ve.  (yesterday, I was about to go to Kebbi, when someone came to tell me you are going to return.)
Refers to time in the future	Ova ka ki oni va mogunvo yiyi  (He will say that he will help us).

## RELATIVE PAST

USES OF TENSE	EXAMPLES OF SENTENCES
They act as qualifiers	Re uno oni mi shi  Look cow bought I  (look at the cow (which) I bought.)
Acts a subject and object	Uno shi ami odashi uno shi ewu  Cow bought I better cow bought you  (The cow I bought is better than the cow you bought)
As object	Ewa ye isene shi emi  You know what bought I?  (Do you know what I bought)

## NEGATIVE PAST

USES OF VERBS	EXAMPLES
It is a counterpart of general past	<p>owa-na da nave ko ozi ni na?</p> <p>(He has gone or hasn't he?)</p> <p>Ma zi ye.</p> <p>(I don't know)</p>
Functions as a relative clause	<p>Re osa uno onimi razi shi.</p> <p>(Look another cow I didn't buy).</p> <p>(Here is another cow I didn't buy).</p>
As past participle	<p>O ya anana</p> <p>(One that was sold)</p>
Functions as a negative Emphatic sentences	<p>Ise ne me kozi si ki ona shire oketekete</p> <p>That's why he doesn't Want to ride a horse</p>

<b>USES OF TENSE</b>	<b>EXAMPLES OF SENTENCE</b>
<p>It indicates a habit or normal Practice</p>	<p>O darare.  He farms.  Enene tru enene ete rafayi Ali vana ni inavi na tor oku(Every morning ( when it dawns) Ali would go to the bush and collect wood).</p>
<p>It acts as a counterpart of continuous tense</p>	<p>Ma mu ukoro omeyani.  I'm working at present.</p>



## RELATIVE FUTURE

Functions as qualifiers	Oni ni apapa oni mi shi  (This is the corn (which) I bought.
Subject	Isa oni ma vas hi ekushi ofu vafu eyi boo.  what I shall buy on market day is enough for us all.
Object	Ozi ye isa oni mi va shi.  (He doesn't know what I shall buy.
Functions as relative adverbials	Uwa ye ize ni ma na shi apapa?  Do you know where I am going to buy corn?
As adjunction	Efi boo oni mi rava shi apapa do ki ekeshi ani shire.  (whenever I'm about to buy corn he increases it's price)
Functions also as interrogation	Are oni mi ra shi?
Sentences	Which shall I buy?
Function also as emphatic	Wana shi apapa.
Sentences	you are going to buy corn.

## NEGATIVE FUTURE

USES	EXAMPLES
Acts as a negative counterpart of general future	<p>Mara ni nofu ufuo.</p> <p>I won't go to the market tomorrow.</p> <p>Mara na ufuo.</p> <p>I won't sell it tomorrow.</p>
Functions as a negative Habitual future tense	<p>O ma darare.</p> <p>He doesn't farm.</p> <p>O zi shi anwa ono me ko zi zwe.</p> <p>He is not afraid, that's why he didn't run away.</p>
Functions as negative of the relative clause	<p>Azi yi adaba oni ma zua shire</p> <p>There isn't a horse which I won't mount.</p>

## PROGRESSIVE TENSE

USES OF TENSE	EXAMPLES OF SENTENCES
Function as the present progressive	<p>Omu ukoro.</p> <p>he is working.</p>
As past progressive	<p>Oma mu ukoro.</p> <p>He dosn't work.</p>
As future progressive	<p>Ova ka yuwu ko ona mu ukoro.</p> <p>He will tell you he is working.</p>

## NEGATIVE PROGRESSIVE

It negate the progressive forms	<p>Enini a jine ve, nave ke zi ve ?</p> <p>Azi va vo, eza jine ve.</p> <p>(They are coming out aren't they?</p> <p>It is not so, they are not coming out.</p> <p>Mi ro ka shiwu, eye, aza ezi shi mi.</p> <p>I think you are being called, no I am not being called.</p>
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The tenses above are by now understood in relation with the time and aspect of their utterance. There is time difference in each and we see that each has a relative and negative aspect. The time overlaps from the present time of action to either the past or to the future and within a certain chosen aspect like the future. I have also got its own time. So time determines the utterance.

## 4.2 SENTENCE ANALYSIS

### 4.2.1 Igarra Sentences

Looking at the following sentences, one would realize that they are from the two major type of sentences that have already been dealt with; one from the verbal sentence and the second one is from the non-verbal sentences.

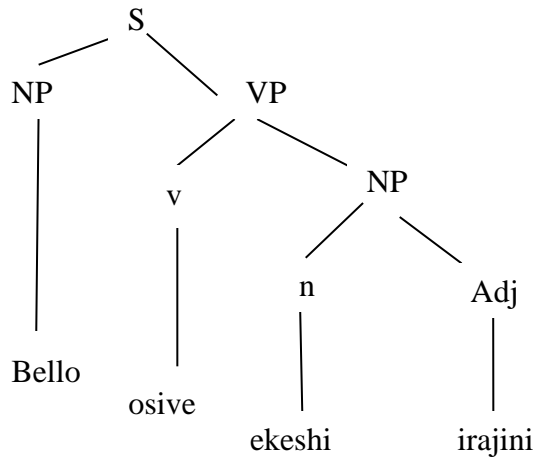
i. Sent:       Bello Osive       ekeshi Irajini  
                  bello brought   money today

Shall be analyzed as;

S  $\longrightarrow$  NP + VP

- NP → (Adj) n pron.
- NP → n
- VP → V (VC) (NP) (PP)
- VP → V
- NP → (Adj) n
- n → Bello
- v → Osive
- n → ekeshi
- adj → Irajini

This could be further presented in the tree diagram as;



ii. Sentence:                      Bello                      Onuya  
     (Bello                      is                      poor)

S → NP + VP

NP → (Adj) n pronoun

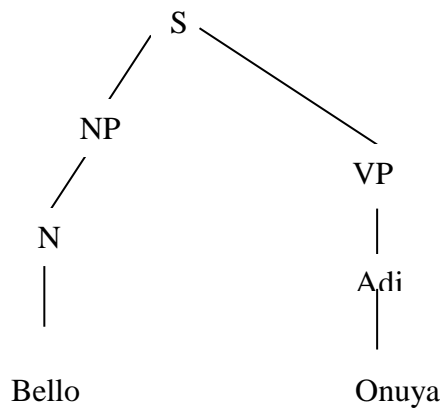
NP → n Adj

VP → V (VC) (NP) (PP)

n → Bello

Adj → Onuya

This could also be further presented in the tree diagrams;



#### 4.2.2 English Sentence

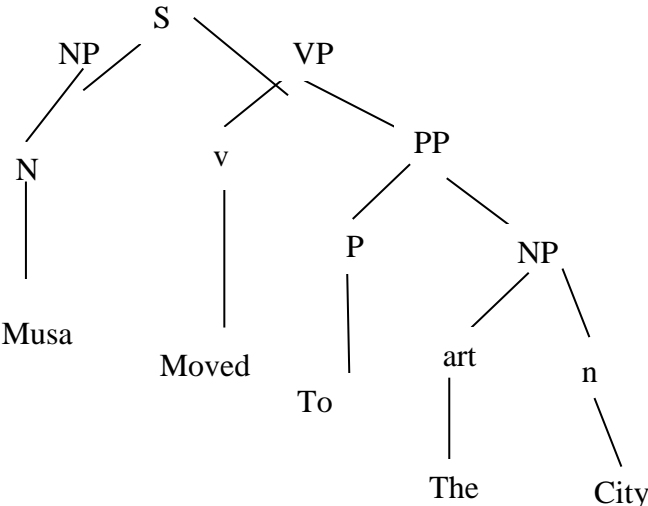
##### Igarra Sentence

i. Sentence: Musa moved to the city.

The above sentence could be analyze as;

S → NP + VP  
NP → art (Adj) n  
NP → n  
VP → V (NP) (PP)  
VP → V (PP)  
PP → P NP  
NP → art (Adj)n  
NP → art n  
n → Musa, city  
V → Moved  
P → to  
art → the

However, this could also be presented as in the tree diagram as;



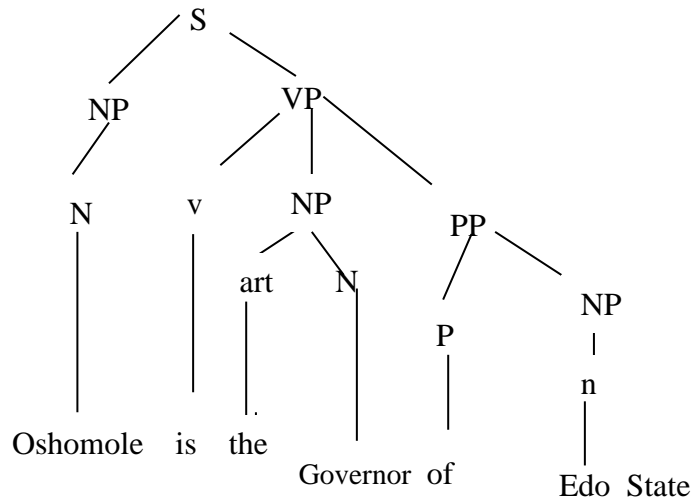
ii. Oshomole is the Governor of Edo State

- S → NP + NP
- NP → art (Adj) n
- NP → n
- VP → V (NP) (PP)
- VP → V
- NP → art (Adj)n
- NP → art n
- PP → P NP
- NP → P
- NP → n
- n → Oshomole



V → is  
 art → the  
 n → Governor  
 P → of  
 n → Edo State

This could be further presented in the tree diagram as;



### 4.3 CONCLUSION

In this chapter we have present and analyzed different English and Igarra sentences. In Igarra language the verbal and non-verbal sentences where presented and analyzed likewise the English sentences.

However, the next chapter will dwell on conclusion and summary of the research.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter summarizes the previous chapters. It also draws conclusion from the findings which at the same constitute the discovery of the research.

However, recommendations are to be presented in line with conclusion.

#### **5.1 SUMMARY**

This research embarked on the contrastive analysis of the sentence structure of English and Igarra languages Therefore, the research was divided into five chapters.

Chapter one dwelled mainly on introduction of the research, the aims and objectives of terms.

However, chapter two focus on related literature of the study.

Chapter three focus on data presentation, here the raw data where presented which was later interpreted and analyses in chapter four, finally, this chapter draws the ends of the research with summary, conclusion and recommendation.

## **5.2 CONCLUSION**

From the foregoing discussion on the various chapters of the study. This research has rich to the conclusion that there exist, semantics, phonology and lexical differences in the structure of both languages i.e. English and Igarra.

## **5.3 RECOMMENDATION**

We are of the opinion that in other for the student of language or any one interested in the study of language particularly the Igarra language, should first consider the structure and the form of the language. Finally, this research is recommends to

the student of language and to those who are interested in the subject matter to, in the case of discussing or further research should take the following into consideration; as it would ease his/her work.

1. Form and structure of the Language
2. Semantics, lexical, phonology and syntax of the language.

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