

EDITORIAL

Naledi N. Kgolo-Lotshwao¹

Volume 36 of *Marang: Journal of Language and Literature* contains five journal articles, all of which address pertinent and contemporary issues relating to language and society. It begins with an article by Olaleye and Dahunsi who study parables in biblical discourses. The authors employ elements of pragmatic intertextuality to explicate Jesus's parable in Mathew 13:33. They identify key words contained in the parable using macro elements of pragmatic intertexts such as presupposition, speech acts, intertextual echo, exegetical intertextuality, and dialogical intertextuality, and mapped the meanings through the inferential process of intertext to arrive at the central message of the parable. The article concludes that familiarisation with different but related texts in the Bible is crucial to unravelling the full meanings of words in their immediate contexts of use. Without that, the correct meaning and interpretation of Biblical parables may be elusive leading to misinterpretation of Biblical messages and unbiblical applications.

The second paper by Lantern focuses on the topical issue of indigenous languages and their inclusion in academia. The article discusses the linguistic ecological revivalism of previously marginalised languages in Zimbabwe through their inclusion in the academe. Prior to the adoption of the 2013 Constitution of Zimbabwe which promoted most languages spoken in Zimbabwe to an official status, indigenous languages were relegated to lower echelons of power. Ndebele and Shona languages were regarded as national languages while the rest were relegated to marginal statuses. The article examines how these once marginalised languages managed to find their way back in the academia where English, Ndebele, and Shona are already in use. The study is primarily concerned with mapping and discussing the inclusion of selected indigenous languages: Sotho, Nambya, Kalanga, Tonga, Xhosa, Venda, and Shangani/Tsonga at primary, secondary, college, and university levels. The article also examines the growth and development of these languages because of their inclusion in the academe and suggests avenues for further development. The research uses the Catherine Wheel Model elements to map and critique the success of that inclusion.

Okebiorun discusses stress assignment in Nigerian newscasts and news reports. The author examines, through a comparative approach, whether Nigerian newscasters and news reporters approximate closely to the Standard British English (SBE) in the appropriate use of stress. She interrogates whether news reporters and newscasters of private TV stations (hence TVS) do better than public TV stations newscasters and news reporters in the appropriate assignment of stress. Metrical theory guides the analysis in showing how stress is assigned by the newscasters and news reporters. Data

¹ Editor, *Marang: Journal of Language and Literature*, Department of English, University of Botswana, Botswana. Email: kgolon@ub.ac.bw

was collected through the extraction of news from a recording of newscasts and news reports of six different television stations. The authors report that newscasters from both private and public TV Stations approximate closer to the SBE in stress assignment than news reporters. The results also show that private TV station newscasters and news reporters generally performed better in the appropriate assignment of stress than Public TV Stations newscasters and news reporters. The study concludes that Nigerian newscasters from private TV stations (though non-native speakers of English) are models for Standard Nigerian English pronunciation.

Ohwodede and Osewa investigate the phonology of Korean accented English, Konglish. They propose a means to extracting preferred phonological features, which would constitute a two-way standard: inner and outer standards or formal and informal standards. The research is grounded on the workings of the Preference Operational Grammar approach to the standardization of the phonological corpora of New Englishes. It is a framework that adopts ranked but violable parameters that are parallel to 'constraints' in Optimality Theory which categorizes variations in spoken forms into members of a bi-normative inventory. Konglish lexical items are gleaned from the discourse contexts of selected K-dramas on Netflix, using an Infinix Smart 5 mobile device. Results establish a prototypical phonological inventory of Korean-style English as a non-native variety of English. These findings confirm the preference for certain phonological elements or outputs which would constitute the inner standard norms or formal standard while the next in rank, the non-preferred elements would form part of the atypical category which may be considered as allophones of the accepted components and described as the outer standard norm, informal standard. The non-standard patterns are categorized under the developmental circle, reflecting the regional and sociolinguistic aspects of Konglish.

The fifth and final paper by Obikudo investigates a linguistic description of fishing terms in Nkoroo, Eastern Ijo, Nigeria, where fishing forms part of the traditional ecological knowledge. A decline in fishing activities due to factors such as migration, education, and urbanisation has translated into a loss of the associated vocabulary. The paper identifies the language used within the domain of the fishing culture and describes the linguistic processes employed in deriving the vocabulary. The study utilises the Righthand Head Rule within the framework of generative morphology to analyse the internal structures of the fishing terms. The findings reveal that the derived vocabulary employs three-word formation processes, namely clipping, compounding, and reduplication. Both apheresis or fore-clipping and apocope or final clipping are employed to derive disyllabic clipped words. The compounds are right headed and exhibit both simple (binary) and complex structures. The study emphasizes the need to preserve the vocabulary associated with the fishing culture of the Nkọrọọ people and contributes to the literature in Ijoid linguistics.