

# **Learning English as a second language: some socio-cultural problems of the Yoruba learners of English.**

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**Abstract:**

This study sets out to investigate some sociocultural problems of Yoruba learners of English as a second language. To achieve its objective, the study first reviews the Yoruba socio-culture especially as it affects age and social power-structure.

Then, it goes on to discuss the three major parts of the informal English letter-text viz: salutation, discourse and the ending (comprising closing remarks and subscription). Based on the discussion of these major parts, the study concludes that the influence of the Yoruba socio-culture has been the main source of the identified cases of linguistic deviance in our data which consist of sample informal English letter-texts written by some randomly-selected high school Yoruba users of English as a second language.

The study also concludes that some of the identified cases of linguistic deviance have arisen from imperfect learning of the English language. It therefore draws a general conclusion that cultural-input and mastery of the English language are common factors that can make for the effective production of texts in English as a second language.

**Keywords:** Language/ English/ Yoruba/ linguistic/ culture/ letter-text

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