

Title of Article: Discursive Constructions Of Borders In Online Feedback Platforms

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Abstract: Previous studies on the Nigerian English lexicon have concentrated on variance of general terms with little attention paid to the description of lexicon from specific lexical and semantic fields. This paper, therefore, explores the use of culinary terms among educated Nigerian speakers of the English language; x-raying the semantic peculiarities inherent in the use of some cooking terms.

Contextual Relativity (CR), a modified version of Sapir-Whorf's (1956) Linguistic Relativity and Cruse's (1986) contextual approach formed the theoretical framework. This eclectic approach bridged the gap between studying the meanings of a word as it relates to its linguistic and cultural environment. Ninety (90) out of the one hundred (100) copies of the questionnaire administered were retrieved and analysed. Data were complemented with selected Nigerian-based literary texts. The data were subjected to simple statistical and linguistic analyses.

Findings review that most Nigerian speakers of English do not differentiate between the use of some of the terms investigated based on their semantic properties. This was attributed to either their poor knowledge of the existence of such differences, or the lack of sufficient vocabulary to account for such cooking processes.

The study therefore concludes that even though the right to be innovative in language use rest with language users, there is the need to check the extent of such

innovativeness and to define the yardstick for such acceptable usage. Also, if Nigerian English is to stand at par with other World Englishes, it must be set to use words for what they represent – speakers of NE should not be encouraged to practise one culinary term and name it as a different term. Literary writers are indicted in this work as accessories to keeping Nigerians in the dark regarding the use of the unfamiliar culinary terms. Writers should explore the wide range of word stock in each domain they choose to write.