

## Morpho-Syntactic Analysis of Temporal Realities in Esan and English Languages

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**Abstract :** Temporal realities/expressions are crucial in human conversations, and they vary across languages. This study assesses areas of temporal realities. It examines how tense and aspect are marked in Esan and English languages and uncovers temporal expressions. Esan language, an indigenous language within the Edo linguistic group in Nigeria, exhibits a different structural system of tense aspects from that of the English language. The different representations, usage, and flow of these elements may possibly impinge on usage, which could result in limited usage by Esan-English learners. Theoretical insights are drawn from Chomsky's Principles and Parameters of the Universal Grammar, with the descriptive method of analysis employed. Findings revealed that temporal realities in both languages vary in representation and usage; identifying the differences would enable effective usage and avoid any challenge in the morphosyntactic analysis of these aspects. Given this insight, the study recommends improved teaching and learning strategies by providing teaching resources that highlight differences in Esan and English tense and aspect. Educators should first identify the differences that exist before teaching. This should be sufficiently handled, as it would enable improved learning and effective usage, as well as avoid challenging morphosyntactic analysis. The study concludes that understanding the varying temporal realities of both languages would enhance effective usage and curb unnecessary generalisations.

**Keywords :** tense, aspect, Esan and English languages, principles and parameters

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