

A Contrastive Analysis of English and Ukwuani Front Vowels

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Abstract : This paper examines the areas of convergence and divergence between English and Ụkwuani (a language in Nigeria) vowel systems with particular emphasis on the front vowels. It specifies areas of difficulty for the average Ụkwuani users of English and Ụkwuani L1 users of English as a second language. The paper explains the nature of contrastive analysis, the geographical locations where Ụkwuani is spoken as mother tongue as well as English and Ụkwuani front vowels. The principles of establishing phonemes, minimal pairs in Ụkwuani as well as the vowel charts in both languages are among the issues highlighted in this paper.

Keywords : convergence, divergence, English, Ukwuani

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