

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 Ukwuani (a language in Nigeria) vowel systems with particular emphasis on the front vowels. It specifies areas of difficulty for the average Ukwuani users of English and Ukwuani L1 users of English as a second language. The paper explains the nature of contrastive analysis, the geographical locations where Ukwuani is spoken as mother tongue as well as English and Ukwuani front vowels. The principles of establishing phonemes, minimal pairs in Ukwuani 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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