

**Comparative Study of Linguistic Features in Wole Soyinka's *The Lion and the Jewel* and
Philippe Laburthe's - *Tolra's Le lion et la Perle***

Olayinka Omolara FAWOLE

LCU/PG/001593

**Being a Thesis Work Submitted to the Department of Languages and Literature, Faculty of
Arts, Lead City University, Ibadan.**

**In Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Award of Master of Arts
(M.A) Degree in English (Language)**

2022

Certification

This is to certify that Olayinka O. Fawole with matriculation number LCU/PG/001593 carried out this research work titled “Comparative Study of Linguistic Features in Wole Soyinka’s *The Lion and the Jewel* and Phillippe Laburthe’s - Tolra *Le Lion et la Perle*” in the Department of Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts, Lead City University Ibadan, Oyo State for the award of Master Degree (M.A) in English Language and that this has not been previously submitted.

.....

Dr R. O Aluko
(Supervisor)

.....

Date

.....

Dr. Ufuoma Davies
(Head of the Department)

.....

Date

DO NOT COPY. LEAD CITY UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA.

Dedication

This research work is dedicated to God Almighty for the grace given to me to complete this study.

DO NOT COPY. LEAD CITY UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA.

Acknowledgment

The completion of this study could not have been possible without the expertise of Dr. Dieu- Donne of the Department of Language Studies, Universite Nangui Abrogoua Abidjan

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Dr. R. O Aluko who made this work possible, with her continuous support, patience, motivation, and immense knowledge. Her guidance helped me through all the stages of writing this thesis.

My profound gratitude goes to the Head of Department, Languages and Literature Dr. Ufuoma Davies her constant motivation and encouragement contributed greatly to the success of this work.

My sincere appreciation goes to Mr. Akande of the Department of Languages and Literature Lead City university for the support and inspiration I received from him. I am also thankful to Dr. Oluwafemi Jolaosho of the Department of Languages and Literature for all corrections made at different levels to make the work presentable.

I will also want to show my appreciation to all my lecturers Dr. Mike Gbadegesin, Dr. Kemisola Adesina, Mr. Jegede, Dr. Seneyo, Dr. Olukosi, Monsieur Julius all in the Department of Languages and Literature your suggestions and contributions at different stage of this work are all constructive and it made it a success as I drew from your scholarly prowess.

I thankfully acknowledge the support and inspiration of Mr. Victor Ademulegun Arijeniwa of Sublime Education and Global resources, for his guidance, encouragement, and keen interest shown to complete the research work successfully.

Finally, I am extremely grateful to my family for their love and care. I am much thankful to my husband Mr. Olakunle Aderemi Fawole, for his continuous support and understanding and to my precious son Oluwasegun – funmi Ini-oluwa whose birth came in the course of writing this work.

Even though the above-mentioned institution and persons have assisted in the process of this work, I alone stand responsible for the errors, if any found in the work.

Abstracts

Interlingual and intercultural communication has some direct bearing on translation. They correspond at the level of both formal and informal contexts. Drama which is one of the genres of literature production is written to mimic societal norms and practices. When such text is translated, issues of similarities and differences will not be far from such endeavour. Such recognition led Nida to put forward Dynamic Equivalence, which brings the receptor to the center of the communication. The concept of Equivalence shift focus from the form of the message to the response of the receptor. Therefore, this study interrogates the similarities and/ or differences between the two texts through the lenses of comparative linguistics. Using qualitative research techniques, the study adopted a content analysis research design using linguistic feature analysis of the chosen texts with some insights from Nida's concept of Dynamic Equivalence of the French-translated version of Wole Soyinka's *The Lion and the Jewel*. Findings revealed that while both texts are very much alike as the translator of the French version demonstrates a high level of fidelity to the source text; yet, a few instances of divergence can be identified especially at the graphological, semantic, lexical, and pragmatic levels. For instance, while Soyinka's *The Lion and the Jewel* is much more presented like a poetic rendition reflecting the nature and literary enigma of the writer, Laburthe-Tolra's *Le Lion et la Perle* is more of a prosaic rendition the study concluded that stylistics, as adopted in this study has shown that there is more to what is said than what the actual words convey.

Keywords: Comparative study, Linguistic features, Multilingualism, Source text, Text-linguistics, Translation, Target text.

Word count: 274 words

Table of Contents

Certification	i
Dedication	ii
Acknowledgements	iii
Abstracts	iv
Chapter One: Introduction	
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	5
1.3 Aim and Objectives of the study	6
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Significance of the Study	7
1.6 Scope of the Study	7
1.7 Operational definition of Terms	8
Chapter Two: Literature Review	
2.1 Conceptual Review	
2.1.1 The comparative study	12
2.1.2 Comparative Linguistics	12

2.1.3 Linguistic features and functions	19
2..1.3 Text linguistics and linguistic stylistics	24
2.1.4 Reasons for text linguistics	24
2.1.5 Linguistics stylistics	48
2.2 Theoretical Review	
2.2.1 Deficit Hypothesis (Code Theory)	62
2.2.2 Translation theory and linguistics	62
2.2.3 Translation from linguistic point of view.	70
2.2.4 Linguistics and Translation: A Relationship Marked by Mutual Ignorance	73
2.2.5 Contrastive Linguistics and Translation Studies Approach.	78
2.2.6 Linguistics in Translation Issues	78
2.2.7 Corpus Linguistics and Translation	81
2.2.8 Translation Theory and Practice	83
2.2.9 Linguistics Universals	93
2.2.10 Linguistics Relativity Hypothesis	99
2.2.11 Formal Structure of the Hypothesis	102
2.3 Review of Empirical Studies	
2.3.1 Approach to Empirical Research.	104

2.3.2 Interpretations of reality.	116
2.3.3 Background information of <i>The Lion and the Jewel</i>	120
2.3.4 Related literature on Soyinka's <i>The Lion and the Jewel</i> .	121
2.3.5 Related literature on French translated text(s).	126

Chapter Three: Methodology

3.1 Research Design	136
3.2 Population	137
3.3 Rationale for the study	138
3.4 Research paradigm	139
3.5 Validity of research instrument	140

Chapter Four: Results and Discussion of Findings

4.1 Discussion	145
4.2 Data Presentation of Lexical Deviation	147
4.3 Data Analysis of Lexical Deviation	149
4.3 Stylistic Inversion	151
4.4. Colloquial Construction	153
4.5 Deviation and Parallelism	159
4.6 Pragmatic Level	162
4.7 Analysis of Translation of Yoruba Songs in the Text	174

4.8 The Translation of Yoruba Proverbs	176
--	-----

Chapter Five: Conclusion

5.1 Summary of findings	181
-------------------------	-----

5.2 Conclusion	182
----------------	-----

5.3 Contribution to Knowledge	182
-------------------------------	-----

5.4 Suggestions for Further Study	182
-----------------------------------	-----

DO NOT COPY. LEA. CITY UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA.