

# Second Language Influence on First Language Performance: Appraising Yoruba–English Bilinguals

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## **Abstract**

*It is a common practice imagining the English as second language speakers' native languages as posing negative influences on the effective teaching, learning and use of English. In nations like Nigeria, where indigenous languages receive the least attention compared with foreign ones like English, French and Arabic, native languages are perceived as threats to better performance in English. The thrust of this paper seems different from its similar lots. It sets out to redirect language studies attention towards the negative influence of L2 over the L1. English and Yoruba are the working languages and subjects of attention are education bilinguals of Yoruba origin whose exposure to English has weakened their performance in their Yoruba.*