

**DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN LANGUAGE THROUGH PIDGIN****KURE KISHOR VISHWANATH**

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Shirur Anantpal, Dist. Latur, MS**ABSTRACT**

Sourced from Chinese pronunciation of the English word business, Pidgin is a kind of language with no complexity of grammar, which is used for easy communication between two different people of two or more different languages. It is a signal communication and also verbal communication. It is a project of communication between multicultural populations having no language common amongst them. It is limited in grammar and vocabulary and used in communication. Pidgin is no one's native language and is a mixture of vocabulary, phones, syntax from different languages. When two people of two different languages come together and they have no common language between them, they use signs and sounds of each other's languages and endeavour to communicate using sounds and onomatopoeia. This adds additional or new meanings two words received from both the languages.

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Pidgin is a form of 'Patois', meaning of non standard language of low prestige. This does not mean all simplified languages or non standard languages are Pidgins. Actually, different Pidgins have different norms of usage; and one needs to acquire proficiency to use it (wiki).

Pidgin means “business English”. It was first approved in 1955. According to **Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (9th Edition)**, Pidgin is 'simple form of language,

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especially English, Portuguese or Dutch, with a limited number of words that are used together with words from a local language. It is used when people who do not speak the same language need to talk to each other' (A S Hornby, 2015, p.1158)

Originally, pidgin was used as Chinese English Pidgin. Later, it was used for any pidgin. It can be used as a special name for local pidgins or creoles at its spoken place; e.g., Chinese Tok Pisin (Creole) is used as talk Pidgin only. Sometimes, jargon also is used as pigeon rarely.

Being a trade language, Pidgin can influence an established local language (dialect) of the people engaged in business. It can become a fully-developed language and be used as a national language; e.g., Swahili.

Pidgin is morphologically simple and syntactically stiff in comparison with other languages. It looks like and isolating language closely having lower proportion of morphemes and no inflections. In it, single word has single morpheme. Ex. Yoruba.

It has simple structures, no dependent clauses, is reduced to constant clusters and sound changes, has no phonological and morphological variation, and no tenses of grammar and use of separate words. Reduplication is used to show plurals, superlatives and some other parts of speech.

According to Trask, R. L. (2005), pigeon is an auxiliary and grammarless language. It can be no one's language. It cannot be anyone's mother tongue. It is a way of taking any stitching words together to have communication in a crude way. Being unnatural language, this is limited in communication. Pidgin arises and develops in favourable conditions. If we survey last hundred years, we see many pigeons were created for a simple purpose. Ex. Pidgins were created along the East and the West coasts of Africa for trade communication amongst Africans, Europeans and Arabs. Pidgin was used in North US and the Caribbean to have communication between African slaves and their European masters.

Another example can be taken from the Sugar Plantation of Hawaii. To this plantation, innumerable slaves were transferred from various Asian and Pacific countries. When the slaves tried to communicate to people of other languages, they failed. So, they tried to learn words from other languages and sounds and used in their own way giving new meanings to them; in this way, their languages were mixed and a new language arose namely a new pidgin.

Pidgin may or may not have future. It can become obsolete when not in use. It can be used by second generation, can become Lingua-franca or Creole and also can become a country's national language. Everyone knows how English displaced Hawaiian Pidgin.



Trask, R. L. (2005) says that pidgin can last for centuries or generations as is found with some West African Pidgins. Pidgin can become someone's real or natural language when children from a community use Pidgin only with another community of different language dramatically, fixing syntax and increasing vocabulary. This can create a new language becoming the children's native language, namely Creole.

Steph Koyfman (babble.com) says clearly that it has always been a matter of controversy for linguists if pidgins transfer to creoles immediately or takes century to get transferred. Some pidgin also exist today; e.g., Nigerian Pidgin English and Cameroonian Pidgin English. He finds it difficult to clear if they are pidgins or creoles. People name them differently. In spite of this, entire linguists see that Haitian and Louisiana Creole is a mature baby of a pidgin.

Steph Koyfman further says that a pidgin remains a pidgin if it is not used as an M.T. by second generation of the speakers or is used as SL or Lingua-franca. A pidgin is a baby which needs to be looked after. This means it will not develop if there is no suitable environment for its growth. As a result, it will vanish or become obsolete with the passage of time.

Stuart J. Walton, an Australian translator and word-wrangler on Quora, states that Tok Pisin, formerly known as new Melanesian Pidgin English, is very much popular in New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. Also, it is understood by people generally in the areas like Papua Guinea and some Island regions in the southwest Pacific. A similar Creole/pidgin is spoken in Northern Australia, the Torres Straight Islands and Cape York. One can learn the language easily, picking up the basics in a few weeks or months. Mr. Stuart tried deciphering and transliterating a sign in pigeon at a place:

The sign said:

'Dispels hap itambu

Whosat he came up long dispela hap

Bai e got kot'.

Mr. Stuart simplified into English derivative compound components:

'This area is a Taboo

Whoever comes into this area

He will go to court

Move familiarly,



Private property

Trespassers will be prosecuted'.

Grace Adésinà on Quora says that pidgin is spoken widely in Nigeria and understood by everyone. Grace found slight variation amongst them as follows:

'Wafi/warri Pidgin spoken by the people of the Niger Delta region in the south of Nigeria.'

'Benin Pidgin spoken by the ben in people of Edo State.'

'Logos Pidgin spoken by the indigegenes of Lagos.'

Grace states the differentiation in his own style:

'English. : Have you eaten?

Wadi Pidgin. : you don Len?

Lagos Pidgin : you don chop?

AND

English. : Mind your business.

Wafi Pidgin : cave your line

Lagos Pidgin : face front door

Benin Pidgin : na wetin concern you'

According to Grace, Ghanaians, Liberians and Sierra Leoneans too use Pidgins having variations to communicate.

Steve Jose on Quora produces us some of the most frequently used Pidgin words in Asafa, Delta state: 'How far?/abi /Nopol/No wahala'

He states that these words are spoken widely in their day-to-day lives. The people appreciate a person's attempt to use and learn that language though learning is faulty. He tells us 'the speakers use O!!! at the end of the sentence habitually. Ex: I am fine O!!!, Nothing dey happen o...'

He lets us know a few examples of pidgin words spoken in Asaba, Delta State:

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‘How Bodi? / How You Dey?’ – How are you doing today?

How Far? (Usually sounds like **HowFA!**)– Hey, Hi

Wetin? – What?

I no no – I don’t know

I no sabi – I don’t understand

I dey fine – I’m fine. I’m doing well.

Wetin dey happen? – What’s going on? What’s happening?

Wahala – Problem/Trouble. *Example* – Why you dey give me wahala? Which means why are you giving me so many problems?

Comot! – Get out of here!

Comot for road – Make way

Dem send you? – Have you been sent to torment me?

Gi mi – Give it to me.

K-leg – Questionable. *Example* – Your story get k-leg! Which means your story or gist sounds suspect or exaggerated.

I Wan Chop – I want to eat Ex. you go chop chop.

Come chop – Come and eat

Abeg – Please, but usually not a repentant plea. *Example* – Abeg! No waste my time!; Which means Please! Don’t waste my time!

Vex – Upset. *Example* – Make you no vex me! ; Which means “Don’t upset me!”

I no gree – I don’t agree, I disagree

Abi? – Isn’t it?

Na so? – Is that so?

Wayo – Trickery. *Example* – That man be wayo; which means “that man is a fraud!”

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Area boys –Street-smart young men that loiter around neighbourhoods.

Butta my bread – Answered prayers. *Example* – “God don butta my bread” which means God has answered my prayers

Go slow – Traffic jam’.

I go land you slap – I will slap you!

Listen well well – Pay attention

Go Small Small - go slow (drive)’

Pidgin English is a name given to Pidgin language taken from the English language. We have a list of pigeons to have been stable contact languages and have become Creole: Aboriginal Pidgin English, American Indian Pidgin English, Cameroonian Pidgin English, Chinese Pidgin English, Butler English (India), Hawaiian Pidgin English, Japanese Bamboo English, Japanese Pidgin English, Korean Bamboo English, Kru Pidgin English, Liberian Interior Pidgin English, Micronesian Pidgin English, Nauru Pidgin English, Nigerian Pidgin, Papua New Guinea Pidgin, Papuan Pidgin English (distinct from Tok Pisin), Port Jackson Pidgin English (ancestral to Australian Kriol), Queensland Kanaka English, Samoan Plantation Pidgin, Solomon Islands Pijin, Solombala-English, Thai Pidgin English, Tok Pisin, West African Pidgin English (multiple varieties), and Vanuatu Bislama.

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