

Grammatical Errors in Nigerian Local Tabloids: A Content Analysis of *Global Concord* and the *Weekly Insight* newspapers in Akwa Ibom State

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Abstract

This paper seeks to expose English Language errors in Akwa Ibom-based newspapers to reduce the acceptance of such newspapers as an instrument for learning the English language in the state. Through content analysis, the research showcases the types of errors, number of occurrences in selected local Nigerian newspapers. Also, the paper examines the concepts of morphology, syntax, and morpho-syntax used in the newspapers under investigation. From the newspapers sampled, a total of 206 errors were identified in 104 copies of two local newspapers circulating in Akwa Ibom State in the year 2015. These errors are classified as pluralisation errors, prepositional errors, concord, and verbal. Others include article, conjunction, and punctuation errors. The study also reveals that errors occurred most in the area of concord. The authors further argue as a consequence of these findings that the presence of errors in newspapers has negative effects on the public perception of the newspapers and therefore recommends that those who work in the media houses should develop capacity and be more diligent in discharging their job. Newspaper journalists/writers should also try as much as possible to adhere strictly to the rules of Standard English usage and good grammar.

Keywords: Grammatical Errors, Language, Newspapers, Tabloids, *Global Concord*, *Weekly Insight*.