

# Contents

**Acknowledgements — V**

**List of Figures — XI**

**List of Tables — XIV**

**List of Abbreviations — XIX**

## **1 Introduction — 1**

- 1.1 The nature of New Englishes — 1
- 1.2 Why NPs in Singaporean English and Kenyan English? — 3
  - 1.2.1 Analysing language contact on the basis of NPs: rationale and aims — 3
  - 1.2.2 The analysis of simplification on the basis of NPs: rationale and aims — 4
  - 1.2.3 The key factors of NP variation addressed — 5
- 1.3 Theoretical backdrop of the study — 6
  - 1.3.1 The approach taken to New Englishes — 6
  - 1.3.2 The approach taken to language — 7
- 1.4 The outline of the study — 9

## **Part A: New Englishes and the Structure of NPs**

## **2 New Varieties of English — 13**

- 2.1 The phenomenon of New Englishes — 13
  - 2.1.1 The definition of “New Englishes” — 13
  - 2.1.2 Models of New Englishes — 14
  - 2.1.3 An overview of linguistic innovations in New Englishes — 18
  - 2.1.4 An overview of explanatory devices for innovations in New Englishes — 19
  - 2.1.5 The field of SLA and the study of New Englishes — 20
- 2.2 Language contact and simplification as major processes of change — 21
  - 2.2.1 Language contact in New Englishes — 22
  - 2.2.2 Evidence of simplification in New Englishes — 26
- 2.3 Summary: New varieties of English — 30

<b>3</b>	<b>Modelling language change in New Englishes — 33</b>
3.1	Language contact and simplification in the field of SLA — 33
3.1.1	L1 transfer in SLA — 33
3.1.2	Simplification in SLA — 41
3.1.3	Summary: Language contact and simplification in the field of SLA — 45
3.2	An evolutionary model of language change for New Englishes — 46
3.2.1	Evolutionary approaches to language change — 47
3.2.2	The key assumptions in Croft's theory of language change — 47
3.2.3	Problematising Croft's (2000) evolutionary approach — 51
3.2.4	Modelling linguistic processes in the emergence of New Englishes in the light of Croft's (2000) theory of language change — 54
3.3	Summary: Modelling language contact and simplification in New Englishes — 56
<b>4</b>	<b>Kenyan and Singaporean English — 57</b>
4.1	Singaporean English — 57
4.1.1	Singaporean English as a variety — 57
4.1.2	The local languages in Singapore — 69
4.2	Kenyan English — 83
4.2.1	Kenyan English as a variety — 83
4.2.2	The local languages in Kenya — 94
4.3	Singaporean English and Kenyan English in perspective — 106
<b>5</b>	<b>The English NP — structure and variation — 108</b>
5.1	The structure of the English NP — 108
5.1.1	The model by Bache (2000) — 108
5.1.2	Evaluating Bache's (2000) model — 110
5.1.3	An adapted model of the NP — 112
5.1.4	Syntactic phenomena and problems in the NP — 116
5.2	Variation in the English NP — 119
5.2.1	Factors influencing the form and complexity of modification — 119
5.2.2	Factors influencing the choice between pre- and postmodification — 124
5.3	NP complexity — 127
5.3.1	Problematising linguistic complexity — 128
5.3.2	The major metrics of NP complexity — 130
5.3.3	Discussion of the main metrics of syntactic complexity — 135
5.3.4	How NP complexity will be operationalised — 136
5.4	Summary: Delineating the variable context in NPs — 144

- 5.4.1 Methodological conclusions from the discussion of NP variation — 144
- 5.4.2 The variable contexts in the NP — 145

## Part B: NPs in Kenyan English and Singaporean English

- 6 Methodology, corpus handling and statistics — 151**
  - 6.1 General methodology: Corpus, software and statistics — 151
    - 6.1.1 The International Corpus of English — 151
    - 6.1.2 Software — 154
    - 6.1.3 Statistical methods — 155
  - 6.2 Corpus handling in the study of NP modification patterns — 157
    - 6.2.1 Choice of corpus sections — 157
    - 6.2.2 Corpus processing — 158
- 7 Studying NP modification in Singaporean English and Kenyan English — 165**
  - 7.1 Hypotheses on NP structures in Singaporean English and Kenyan English — 165
    - 7.1.1 Hypotheses related to language contact — 165
    - 7.1.2 Hypotheses related to simplification — 168
    - 7.1.3 Register-specific areas of interest — 169
  - 7.2 Testing hypotheses about language contact phenomena — 170
    - 7.2.1 Language contact in private dialogue (<ICE-S1A>) — 170
    - 7.2.2 Language contact in student essays (<ICE-W1A>) — 205
    - 7.2.3 Language contact in S1A and W1A — a comparison — 245
    - 7.2.4 Discussion and interpretation: Language contact in NPs in Singaporean English and Kenyan English — 246
  - 7.3 Testing hypotheses about simplification — 248
    - 7.3.1 The complexity of NPs in private dialogue (<ICE-S1A>) — 249
    - 7.3.2 The complexity of NPs in student essays (<ICE-W1A>) — 266
    - 7.3.3 Simplification in S1A and W1A — a comparison — 287
    - 7.3.4 Discussion and interpretation: Simplification in NPs in Singaporean English and Kenyan English — 288
  - 7.4 Summary and discussion: Language contact and simplification across varieties and registers — 291
- 8 Conclusion — 295**
  - 8.1 The outline of the study — 295

- 8.2            The implications of the results for the study of  
New Englishes — 297**
- 8.2.1        Methodological implications — 297**
- 8.2.2        Implications with regard to the phenomenon of New  
Englishes — 299**

**Bibliography — 301**

**Appendix A        HCFA results — 321**

**Appendix B        Some overviews and additional analyses — 329**

- B.1            An overview of the two datasets from S1A and W1A — 329**
- B.1.1        The dataset from S1A — 329**
- B.1.2        The dataset from W1A — 330**
- B.2            Syntactic position and the choice between pre- and  
postmodification — 331**
- B.2.1        Syntactic position and the choice between pre- and  
postmodification in S1A — 331**
- B.2.2        Syntactic position and the choice between pre- and  
postmodification in W1A — 334**
- B.3            Semantic class of the head and complexity levels of NPs — 336**
- B.3.1        Semantic class of the head and complexity levels of NPs in  
S1A — 337**
- B.3.2        Semantic class of the head and complexity levels of NPs in  
W1A — 339**