

## Final Year Project Showcase Batch 2018 Year 2022

<b>Department: Humanities Department</b>		
Programme: <b>BS English Linguistics</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>Project Idea</b>	A Corpus-based Investigation of the Use of Pakistani English in Tertiary Classrooms at a Public University in Karachi
<b>2</b>	<b>Process</b>	<p>It was a corpus-based research project conducted to explore the varieties of English used in tertiary-level ESL classrooms such as British, American and/or indigenous Pakistani English. Hence, a representative academic corpus of 3,46,499 words (transcriptions of 43 recorded live sessions and 41 recorded lectures of 21 English Linguistics courses) was compiled to study the spoken academic discourse of BSEG students and teachers.</p> <p>The students, while reviewing the literature for their proposal development, identified a gap with respect to nativization of Pakistani English (PakE) and that the academic setting is one of the main sources of the emergence of a variety. Therefore, they compiled a corpus of spoken academic discourse of students and teachers. The corpus compilation included the collection of recordings, transcribing these recordings, and cleaning them for unnecessary data. The cleaned data was then analyzed for the grammatical/syntactical and lexical features using Sketch Engine, a corpus analysis tool. Galloway and Rose (2015) was used as the framework for analysis of Pakistani English features, whereas reference grammar books and dictionaries were used for the standard English varieties, i.e. British (BrE) and American (AmE).</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	The findings revealed that English spoken in tertiary classrooms of BSEG program does not strictly follow any one of the standard varieties i.e., BrE or AmE; or only the indigenous variety i.e., PakE. Rather, it is flexible as it has taken in both the standard varieties, along with the features of New Englishes presented in the theoretical framework by Galloway and Rose (2015), as evident in the analysis of the spoken corpus. This indicates that the existence of PakE is distinguishable, and it is slowly making its way to academic discourse with no reluctance by the stakeholders. Hence, the research concludes that a mixed variety is currently being used in Pakistani tertiary level ESL classrooms, however, the presence of PakE features in the academic discourse is a sign of positive response towards the use of an indigenized variety.
<b>4</b>	<b>Evidence (Theoretical Basis)</b>	The evolution of English language from a native language to a global lingua franca has resulted in the emergence of several indigenous varieties of English across the world such as Singaporean English and Hong Kong English. Similarly, South Asian varieties of English have also developed a, however, some of them are at the initial stages of standardization. Rose and Galloway (2015) listed down

		<p>syntactic and lexical features of different South Asian varieties found to be common in the indigenous varieties of English emerging in the region of South Asia. Using the same framework, the spoken academic discourse of Pakistani tertiary classrooms was examined to explore whether the language used in Pakistani classrooms reflects similar features. The findings show that some of the features of South Asian Englishes were quite prominent in the corpus such as use of plural marker (s/es) with uncountable nouns, use of perfect tense instead of past simple, using -ing forms with stative verbs, use of 'okay' and 'right' instead of grammatical tags, overuse of 'isn't it' tag, misplaced adverbs, omission or insertion of articles and prepositions, use of local words, and new word forms using affixes.</p> <p>There were some features for which not many instances were found in the corpus, however, the presence of many South Asian Englishes features in the corpus implies a positive attitude of students and teachers toward PakE and indicates the increasing use of indigenous varieties features in future.</p>
<b>5</b>		<p><b>Competitive Advantage or Unique Selling Proposition</b> (Cost Reduction, Process improvement, Attainment of any SDG (Sustainable Development Goal), increase of market share or capturing new market or having superior performance over a competitor. In summary, any striking aspect of the project that compels the industry to invest in FYP or purchase it. Some detailed description is required in terms of how, why when what. You can select one or more from the following dropdown and delete the rest of them). Please keep relevant options, delete the rest of them, and correct the sequence</p>
<b>a</b>	<p><b>Attainment of any SDG</b> (e.g. How it is achieved and why it is necessary for the region)</p>	<p><b>SDG#10: Reduced Inequalities</b></p> <p>Indigenous language varieties are an important aspect of linguistic landscape. Acceptance and promotion of an indigenous variety of English would contribute towards reduction of inequalities (SDG 10) evident in the dichotomy of native and non-native speakers of English worldwide and the resulting ownership of the same. Being the creators of the indigenous variety, PakE, the non-native users of Pakistan would consider themselves as the legitimate owner of the variety.</p>
<b>b</b>	<p><b>Any Environmental Aspect</b> (e.g. carbon reduction, energy-efficient, etc.)</p>	<p>The entire process of corpus compilation, transcription, and analysis was paper free since the data was secondary in nature and only soft forms were utilized with the help of technology at each stage.</p>
<b>c</b>	<p><b>Cost Reduction of Existing Product</b></p>	<p>The project did not directly result in the form of a tangible product, however, the knowledge created pertaining to PakE is significant for paving way for revision in curriculum and teaching practices along with renewed identity of English language users of Pakistan.</p>
<b>d</b>	<p><b>Process Improvement which Leads to Superior Product or Cost Reduction, Efficiency Improvement of the Whole Process</b> (e.g. What is the issue is current process and what improvement you suggests)</p>	<p>The present research is one of the research studies needed to establish the current status of PakE and explore its journey towards its standardization. This project can serve as the foundation work for the future researchers interested in the developmental stages and standardization of PakE as a legitimate and standard language variety at par with British and American varieties.</p>



<b>e</b>	<b>Expanding of Market share</b> (e.g. how it expand and what is the problem with the current market)	This study investigated what variety is being used in the academic domain, by English Linguistics students and teachers. Working on the varieties of English has broad and long lasting implications not only for the education system but also for the society in general.
<b>f</b>	<b>Capture New Market</b> (e.g. Niche market or unaddressed segment)	This research addresses the domain of World Englishes w.r.t Pakistani English, the less researched variety, with a focus on the academic community. Teachers and students are the key stakeholders in the acceptance and promotion of an indigenized variety of a global language. Literature suggests that if a new variety is accepted in the academic domain, there is a higher chance of its acceptance by the society in general. Therefore, it is important to understand their attitudes towards it so that the future of PakE can be accurately predicted and the relevant measures can be taken.
<b>g</b>	<b>Any Other Aspect</b>	This research may serve as an assistance towards the determination of the stance of Pakistani English in Pakistan, and aid future research as this area is not very well- research in Pakistan.
<b>6</b>	<b>Target Market</b> (Industries, Groups, Individuals, Families, Students, etc) Please provide some detail about the end-user of the product, process, or service	This research findings can be useful for the academic communities and researchers studying World Englishes (or Pakistani English to be specific) as the use of PakE is directly associated with the academic discourse. The language and education policymakers can also be benefitted by the results since the use of an indigenous variety has implications for these policies. Similarly, the curriculum developers may also be informed by the findings to align the curriculum with the new variety, i.e. PakE.
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