



Thai English in the World Englishes Paradigm

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Goal

- To study a status and some peculiarities of Thai English in the World Englishes Paradigm

Objectives

- To give historical backgrounds of usage of English in Thailand
- To analyze the World Englishes Paradigm in the 21st century
- To observe Thai English and the attitudes of Thai people towards it

Model

Kachru's Three Concentric Circles

- The idea of World Englishes focuses on how the norms of the English language spread from multiple nations to other nations, and how those other nations react to the norms they received (Jenkins 47).

1. Inner Circle

1. "Norm-Providing"

- Includes countries where English is the native language;
- e.g., the UK, the US, Australia, etc.

2. Outer Circle

2. "Norm-Developing"

- Includes countries where English is the official or second language;
- e.g., India, Nigeria, Singapore, etc.

3. Expanding Circle

3. "Norm-Dependent"

- Includes countries where English is taught as a foreign language and is not used for official purposes;
- e.g., Russia, Thailand, Brazil, etc.

(Kachru, *English in the World* 12-23).

Material

- Three Newspapers written in English by the native Thais



Methodology

Cultural Analysis

- To observe the trends, influences, and effects in the use of English through cultural phenomena.

Content Analysis

- To determine the presence of certain words, themes, or peculiarities of Thai English within the material.

Questionnaire

- To inspect the attitudes of Thai people towards Thai English

Examples

Cultural Norms Transfer

e.g., *kinship term + name*

"Ananya Phinthong, or **Auntie Oi**, 60, the cook and owner of the restaurant..."

for expressing politeness

Calque

e.g., *idioms/ expressions*

"Buakaw said he was proud that everyone united to make a history **with same heart**"

from "ด้วยใจเดียวกัน"

Lexical Borrowing

i.e., *loan words*

"After spending time on **Koh** Bulon Maiphai, tourists can check out..."

Koh (noun) = an island

Hybridization

i.e., *English word + Thai word*

"The star dishes of Boo Raan are ones that Thailand's residents would find ubiquitous and normal: **chicken satay**,..."

skewered marinated chicken

Conclusion

- The research showcases that the transfer of Thai cultural phenomena is expressed through lexical features of Thai English. Though further studies on other features and aspects of Thai English is necessary, the current evidence supports a potential of Thai English as a developing variant in the World Englishes paradigm.

References

