

REDUPLICATION IN ETSAKO

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BENIN CITY, NIGERIA

August 2023

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**SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FUFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE AWARD OF A BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE (BA) BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN**

August, 2023

CERTIFICATION

I, **INOYAPEH OSHIOMOLE MATILDA** an undergraduate student in the Department of Linguistic Studies of the University of Benin, with the matriculation number **ART1810140** have completed the requirements for course work and research for Bachelors of Art degree Linguistics.

The work embodied in this project is original and has not been submitted in part or full for any other degree or diploma programme of this or any other university or institution.

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PLAGIARISM CERTIFIATION

I **INOYAPEH OSHIOMOLE MATILDA** with the matriculation number **Art1810140** declare that this work Titled **REDUPLICATION IN ETSAKO** has successfully passed the anti-plagiarism test and so does not violate any copyright regulation.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to the glory of the Almighty for his ever sufficient grace toward me and for the gift of life.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My greatest gratitude goes to God Almighty for the patience and endurance to come this far.

My sincere thanks and acknowledge goes to my parents Mr. and Mrs. INOYAPE Hand beloved siblings, thank you for always being there, and for the endless love, patience, financial and emotional support throughout my undergraduate days

To my always supportive supervisor, **Dr. O.O Evbuomwan**, my sincere gratitude Sir thanks for your patience and making this work a success, this would have not be possible without your help and thanks for taking me like a daughter, this work is possible because of your guidance Sir.

I want to also acknowledge my friends, a big thank you to you all, thanks for being part of my undergraduate life; it was a blessing meeting you all

To my best friend Christiana and mother Mrs Evelyn Inoyapeh thank you for your financial assistance and your support.

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ABSTRACT

The morphological process of reduplication one that is predominant among African languages, the process bring about the creation of new words into the lexicon of the language, the Etsako is one that exhibit compounding in a special pattern, this study thus is an attempt to carry out an analysis on Etsako compounding process, the Etsako belongs to the kwa group of languages that have this feature as a special one, the data for this study was carried out using an interview method, the Morphological doubling theory was employed as the theoretical framework of the study, subsequently the data are presented and analyzed into various compounding groups and conclusions made. The analysis of the data collected revealed several functions of reduplication in Etsako, they include, for intensity and emphasis, pluralization, iterative action, expressing diversity, among others. The analysis of reduplication in the Etsako also revealed intriguing patterns and insights into the linguistic structure of this unique language. Through a thorough examination of reduplication processes, forms, and functions, it is evident that reduplication serves multiple roles within Etsako communication. From intensification to plurality, the Etsako reduplication system is rich and has high linguistics importance.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background of the study

Etsako is a Niger-Congo language spoken in southern Nigeria. One of the unique features of Etsako is the phenomenon of reduplication which is the process of repeating a word or a syllable to create a new word or to change the meaning of the original word. This linguistic feature is widely used in Etsako to modify nouns, verbs, and adjectives. Reduplication is a linguistic phenomenon that involves repeating all or part of a word or morpheme to create a new word or morpheme. It is a common feature in many languages, including Etsako, a language spoken in Nigerian as mentioned earlier. Nadarajan (2006) defines reduplication as “a morphological process in which the root, stem of a word or a part is repeated”. Reduplication is found in a wide range of language communities it is a level of linguistics manifestation that, reduplication can occur on the segment level for single segments, on morpheme level or on word level. Wang (2005) explained reduplication to be is a linguistic process frequently observed in languages. It involves the repetition or doubling of a morpheme or a part of a word within a word. Reduplication can serve various functions, including indicating plurality, intensifying meaning, creating specific verb forms, or indicating repeated or ongoing actions. It is an interesting phenomenon that has mesmerized the attention of linguists for centuries. This present study will do well to point out the linguistics functions of reduplication in Etsako with the use of a corpus which will be collected by the researcher.

1.1 Statement of problem

The concept of reduplication has been explored by different scholars on Etsako, approaching it from different linguistics point of view, despite its prevalence, reduplication in Etsako has not been fully explored, this study seeks to contribute to the knowledge of reduplication in Etsako using the morphological doubling theory in investigating the patterns and functions of reduplication in Etsako. This study presents a detailed explanation and description of the manifestation of the linguistics features of reduplication in Etsako.

1.2 Aim and Objectives of the Study

The aim of this study is to examine reduplication in Etsako.

While the objectives of the study include:

1. To identify the different types of reduplication in Etsako.
2. To examine the different functions of reduplication in Etsako.

1.3 Research Question

1. What are the different types of reduplication in Etsako?
2. What are the different functions of reduplication in Etsako?

1.4 Methodology

This involve the method of data collection and analysis

1.4.1. Method of data collection

The data for this study will be collected through method of oral interviews. This method will involve the interview of native speakers of Estako who will be asked to voice out reduplicated words in Etsako, while these words are taken down and translated respectively.

1.4.2 Method of data analysis

Data collected will be analyzed using the morphological doubling theory, this theory will show how reduplicated words are formed and structured, having a word/morpheme (daughter(s)) building up to form parent words in languages, this will help further to expose the structure function and importance of reduplicated words in Etsako.

1.5 Language of the people

Etsako is an Edoid language found in the northern part of Edo state. Elugbe (1963), and further explained in Ikoyo-Eweto (2017) explained that the Etsako belong to the same region and group with the Esan language and Owan language, having similar linguistic attributes. The Etsako clans include: Auchi, Afuze, Ihievbe, Ogben, and Iwiaro. The people of Etsako speak their languages respectively. As reviewed by Ikoyo-Eweto (2017), and in Elugbe (1989) the Etsako belong to the North central Edoid group of the proto Edoid language. Following African classification of languages, the Etsako belongs to the Niger Congo language family of Africa, and falls under the Kwa sub-group (Greenberg J. 1963).

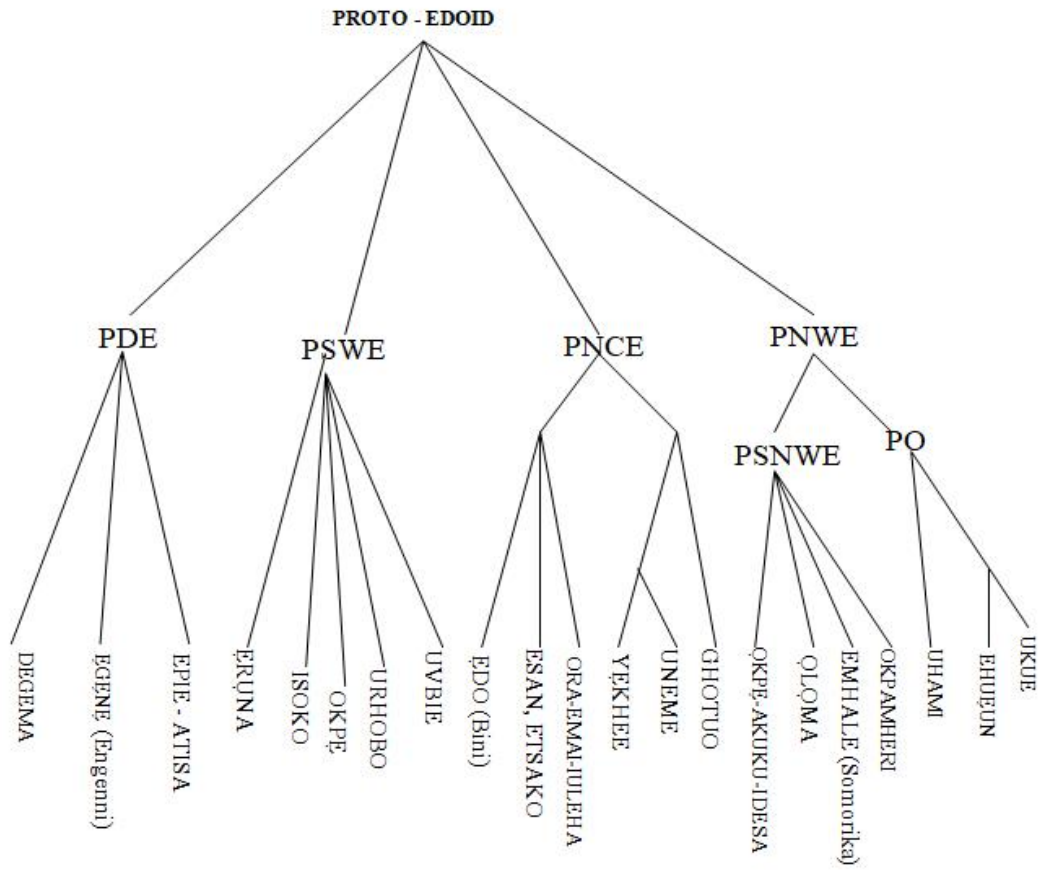


fig 1

The Edoid family tree (Elugbe 1989)

Key

- PDE - ProtoDeltaEdoid
- PSWE - Proto South Western Edoid
- PNCE- Proto North Central Edoid
- PNWE - ProtoNorthWesternEdoid
- PSNWE - ProtoSouthernNorthWesternEdoid

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter presents a comprehensive literature review on the topic reduplication in Estako. In this review, we explore previous research, theoretical frameworks, and empirical studies related to reduplication in Estako, hence this section is divided into four parts namely; conceptual review of literature, previous studies, concern of the present study and theoretical framework. The main aim is to gain insights into the patterns, functions, and underlying principles of reduplication in this specific language.

2.1 Conceptual Review of literature

In this section, concepts related to the topic of study will be reviewed conceptually, these concepts include; language, reduplication and morphology.

2.1.1 Language

Language has been defined and explained by different scholars based on their intuition, some of these definitions presented below; Alshami(2019) in his work language and linguistics explained language to be a means of communication used in conveying our thoughts, ideas, feelings, and emotions to other people. Bihari (2023) reviewed Noam Chomsky's definition of languages, which sees language as "the inherent capacity of the native speaker to understand and form grammatical sentences", a language is a set of (finite or infinite) sentence, each finite length and constructed out of a finite elements". This definition of language considers sentences as the basis of language. Sentences may be limited or unlimited in number and are made up of only limited components, Bihari (2023) summarily presents Chomsky's explanation of language into six (6) features which include:

- Innate ability
- Significance of the environment
- Inter-relationships in languages
- Languages acquisition device
- Universal grammar
- Competence and performance

This sees the explanation of language on a ground that the mind has a great impact in its acquisition and exhibition.

Hakeem (2018) in his online article reviewed several scholarly definition of Language, which Lyons (1981) was present, this definition explains that language is the principal system of communication used by particular groups of human beings within a particular society of which they are members. This definition explicitly explains that language is the only thing that distinguishes humans from animals as social beings.

Language can either be spoken, written, sign and gesture, these all are effective in situations which they are needed.

2.1.2 Reduplication

Reduplication is a common linguistic phenomenon found in many languages across the world. It involves the repetition of all or part of a word to express various semantic and grammatical functions. According to Tannen (1987) Reduplication is a morphological process in which the root, stem of a word or a part of it is repeated. In many languages, reduplication is used in inflections to convey grammatical functions and in lexical derivations to create semantic forms. In Linguistics, reduplication at the lexical level have long been explored by formalist theories, just as Wang (2005) stated that there is a general

possibility among linguists to overlook the functions of reduplication at the level of discourse. Rastall (2004) sees most reduplication forms that appear in the media as temporal in the sense that they tend to appear as play within words that do not 'enter into the language' and stresses the need for studies to look at reduplications beyond their lexical level. The general level of ambivalence among linguists could be due to a preference to focus on the formal features of the language which deal with classical generative approaches, rather than look at forms that are theoretically awkward and irrelevant (Ghomeshi, 2004). However, Nadarajan (2016) has stated that all is not lost, as there is a growing number of corpus based studies on reduplication that reveal the use of reduplication in English to be more widespread than generally believed, and its usage continuously expanding among North Americans, British and non native speakers of English as evident in (Wang, 2005; Ghomeshi, 2004, Biber, 1998; Conrad, 1999, Sinclair, 1997).

Reduplication is found in a wide range of languages and language groups. Its level of linguistic productivity varies, and it is sometimes used interchangeably with repetition. Repetition is a term which is used to indicate sounds and concepts that are repeated in one form or the other to provide reinforcement and emotional emphasis (Nadarajan, 2006). Ghomeshi, Jackendoff, Rosen, and Russell, (2004) refer to reduplication as child language amongst other definitions. They observe that the term is widely used as a poetic device which occurs when a sound, syllable, word, phrase, line, stanza or metrical pattern is repeated to make it the basic unifying device. Describing the features of repetition, Lausberg (1998) proposes that it has both informative and reinforcing functions. However, Wang (2005) insists that both repetition and reduplication have been used interchangeably

because they overlap at some point in different languages as can be observed in Urhobo and Edo languages.

Nadarajan (2016) has also argued that reduplication is a word formation process in which some part of a base (a segment, syllable or morpheme) is repeated, either to the left, or to the right of the word or, occasionally, within the middle of the word. While reduplication is found in a wide range of languages and language groups, its level of linguistic productivity varies and it is sometimes used interchangeably with repetition. Repetition is a term which is used to indicate sounds and concepts that are repeated in one form or the other to provide reinforcement and emotional emphasis, Nadarajan (2016) further explained that reduplication are of two types, which are; full reduplication and partial reduplication.

2.1.3 Morphology

Morphology is the branch of linguistics (and one of the major components of grammar) that studies word structures, especially regarding morphemes, which are the smallest units of language. They can be base words or components that form words, such as affixes. According to Geert (2012) "The term 'morphology' has been taken over from biology where it is used to denote the study of the forms of plants and animals. It was first used for linguistic purposes in 1859 by the German linguist August Schleicher (Salmon 2000), to refer to the study of the form of words". Nordquist (2020) opined that The two branches of morphology include the study of the breaking apart (the analytic side) and the reassembling (the synthetic side) of words; to wit, inflectional morphology concerns the breaking apart of words into their parts, such as how suffixes make different verb forms.

Lexical word formation, in contrast, concerns the construction of new base words, especially complex ones that come from multiple morphemes. Lexical word formation is also called lexical morphology and derivational morphology. For

Crystals, (2003) in English language morphology means devising ways of describing the properties of such disparate items as *a*, horse, took, indescribable, washing machine, and antidisestablishmentarianism. A widely recognized approach divides the field into two domains: lexical *or* derivational morphology studies the way in which new items of vocabulary can be built up out of combinations of elements (as in the case of in-describ-able); inflectional morphology studies the ways words vary in their form in order to express a grammatical contrast (as in the case of horses, where the ending marks plurality).” Wang (2005) opined that reduplication is a morphological process in which the root or stem of a word or part of it is repeated. Wang (2005) stated that in many languages, reduplication is used as inflection to convey grammatical functions and as lexical derivations to create semantic forms. He adds that there is that general tendency among linguists to overlook its functions at the level of discourse which is not too good

2.2 Previous Studies

This section contains the review of previous work on reduplication which are related to this study.

Oyebade (2007) in the study of reduplication in Yoruba sees reduplication as an affixation process that copies materials from the stem into the affix. He discovers that that reduplication is used to derive nouns in Yoruba and also functions as intensifier. He adds that through the aid of tones, Yoruba uses idiophones to identify particular character and traits just like some other African languages.

Inkelas (2008) argues that the fundamental typological distinction pertaining to reduplication is that between phonological duplication and morphological doubling. Phonological duplication, which occurs for a phonological purpose such as providing an onset or nucleus for a syllable or filling in the featural content of an

otherwise unspecified timing unit in the representation, is formally related to phonological assimilation this pattern obeys phonological locality conditions; a target phonologically defined constituents and is sensitive to phonological markedness consideration. The morphological doubling which occurs for morphological purpose such as making a change in meaning or creating a new stem/type, is the result of the doubling of morphological category such as root, stem or affix. Inkelas (2008) also observes that the morphological doubling through the double insertion mechanism is not derived by phonological correspondence and therefore is not subject to any of the phonological properties characteristics of phonological duplication hence the two theory/patterns related morphemes are semantically are phonologically independent.

Aronoff and Fudeman (2011) in their study on Ilokano language, identified that in the Ilokano language of Austronesia, reduplication functions for plurality which is very productive, that in reduplication, a continuous substring from either the beginning or the end of a word is copied; and that many languages used reduplication for inflectional or derivational purposes. Also, they also postulated that identification of the reduplicated morpheme must typically follow the structural pattern in the language. From the above definitions/positions, reduplication could be summarized as a morphological property which functions in different languages in deriving new lexicons. In other words, reduplication process varies from one language to another. It involves the addition of material whose identity is partially or wholly determined by the base. The base or stem can be repeated either to the left, to the right or occasionally in the middle of the stem. It is a process which is seen as a common morphological phenomenon that most languages use for derivational or inflectional purposes in forming words or

creating new lexemes. It was observed however in this study that reduplication cuts across many of the world languages, especially African languages.

Ekenerho (2014) studied the process of reduplication in Ika and Urhobo languages stating that reduplication is a process that copies part or whole of the stem and attaches it to the stem, either before or after it. She adds that nouns, adverbs and adjectives are derived through this process of reduplication in Ika and Urhobo language.

Ejabee (2018) examined reduplication processes in Urhobo language stating that Urhobo language belongs to the South Western Edoid group of languages. Ejabee (2018) explained that Reduplication is a vital phenomenon in language studies. Its linguistic forms have long been studied in terms of descriptive methods. It is a productive floor in the study of linguistics as it cuts across the core levels of linguistics. Reduplication process exists and varies from one language to another. Reduplication can function as plurality marker, qualifier, a comparative term, past tense maker etc. His work focused on the morphological processes involved in the formation of reduplicated words and their implications. Ejabee (2018) collected his data for his study through primary and secondary sources. The primary source was from six competent native speakers of the language who are between the ages of 40 and 50 years while the secondary source included literatures from the languages under study. Ejabee (2018) the following findings: the formation of adjectives and adverbs are mainly through the processes of reduplication in the language. Reduplication performs both grammatical and lexical functions in language. The application of the consonants/vowels templatic morphology theory to the Urhobo language makes the work a pioneer research. This study is similar with the present study as studies reduplication as a linguistic morphological structure; while the difference includes that this study language of focus is Etsako which has its own

distinctive features, while Ejobee (2018) used the application of the consonants/vowels templatic morphology theory for his study this present study will make use of the morphological doubling theory.

2.3 Present of the Present Study

This study is focused mainly on the morphological study of reduplication in Etsako. This will be achieved by employing the use of the morphological doubling theory in the analysis of the data collected. This present study is different from the previous study as it approaches the analysis of collected reduplicated words in Etsako with the morphological doubling theory, bringing out the pattern, function and linguistic importance of reduplication in Etsako. Showing that, there is a pattern that the reduplication of every language follows.

2.4 Theoretical Framework

This section presents the theoretical framework used for the present study, the theory provides a framework in which the present study can be analyzed.

2.4.1 Morphological Doubling Theory

The theory adopted for this study is the morphological doubling theory developed in Inkelas and Zoll (2005), building on earlier proposals by Singh (1982), Saperstein (1997), Sherrard (2001). Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT) is an approach to reduplication in which morphological constructions can call for two instances of the same morphological constituent, where “same” is defined at the level of meaning. Morphological doubling can target a whole word, a stem, a root, or even an affix. It is not phonological in nature, in the sense of increasing the phonological harmony of the output; rather, morphological doubling is an input mandate on the part of the morphology. Consequently, identity in morphological

doubling is computed in terms of morpho-semantic content but not phonological identity

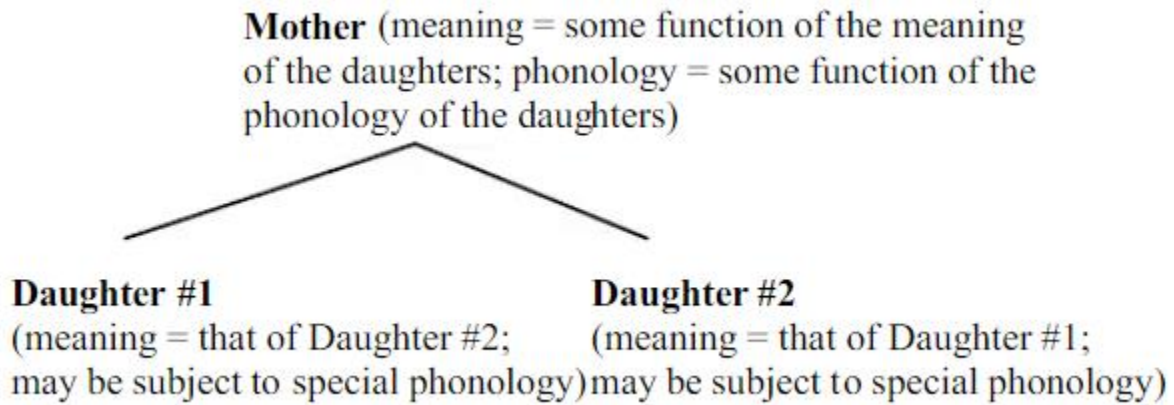
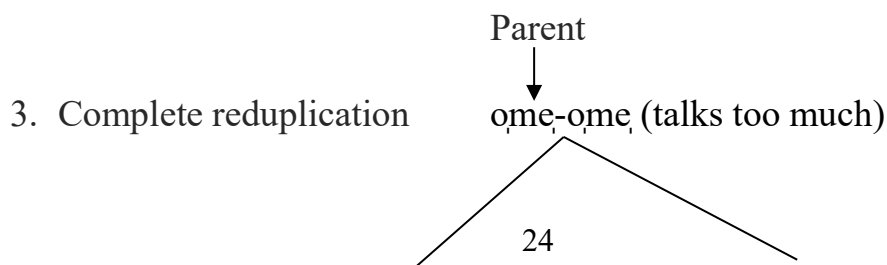


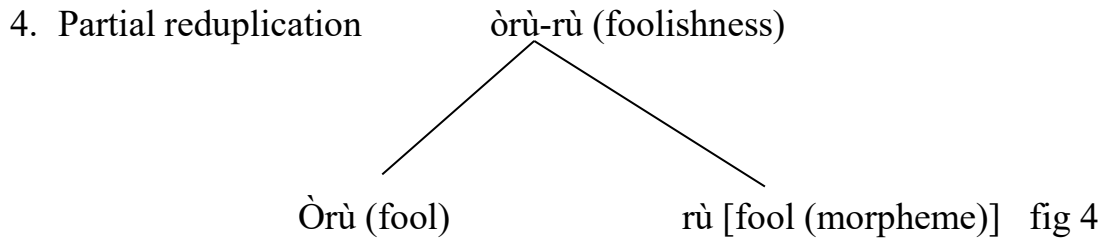
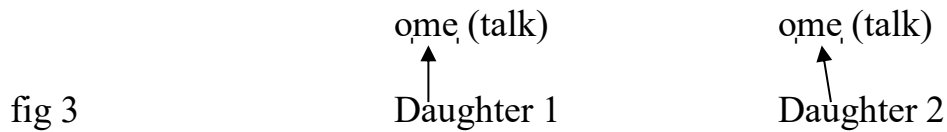
fig 2

Coined out of Inkelas (2005)

Just as a construction might call for one vs. two instances of the same morpho-semantic stem, it can also call for three, as in cases of triplication which, while not common, are robust in some languages, typically marking verbal aspect of some kind. While previous theories (e.g. Marantz 1982, Steriade 1988, McCarthy & Prince 1995) have generally analyzed reduplication as involving the phonological copying of some portion (perhaps all) of a stem or word in order to flesh out a prosodic reduplicative template, this theory, which shares insights with work by Downing (e.g. Downing 1999) as well as with the morphological blending approach of Nick Sherrard, argues that reduplication is a type of morphological construction that calls for two (or more) semantically identical morphological constituents

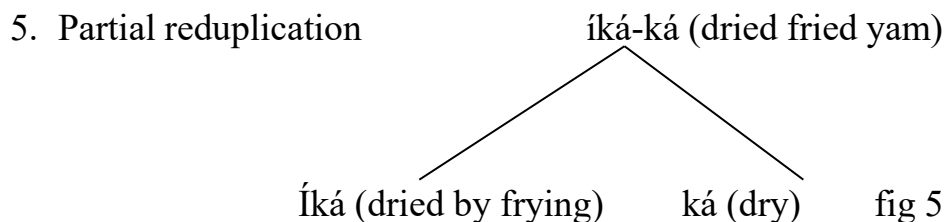
Example from Etsako data





When the meaning of a construction is not predictable from the meanings of the daughters, it must be stipulated as a property of the construction as a whole (Inkelas 2005:1-5), as argued more generally by e.g. Goldberg 1995, Sag 1997, Sag & Wasow 1999, Fillmore et al. 1988, and Koenig 1999, among others. Thus idiomatcity in reduplication supports the existence of a morphological construction like that. So this means that there are some daughter constructions that the meanings cannot be traced independently to the parent construction. This is evident in examples such as; *koṛo-koṛo* (a type of skin disease), *lakpa-lakpa* (dandruff), *leke-leke* (cattle Egret)

Example from Etsako data



This theory shows well the composition that makes up reduplication, distinctly clarifying that there are partial and full (complete) reduplication, where the parents

there are daughters reduplicated words or morpheme that comes together form the parents constituent, this theory also made clear that there are few or some daughter reduplicated words that do not have direct link with the parents and this also should be considered as part of the construction.

2.4.1 Relevance/Justification of the theory

The Morphological Doubling Theory was chosen by the research as the theoretical framework for this present study as it is relevant in the investigation of reduplication showing well how reduplicated words are formed and structured, having a words/morphemes (daughter(s)) building up to form parent words in languages, this will help further to expose the structure function and importance of reduplicated words in Etsako.

CHAPTER THREE

DATA PRESENTATION

3.0 Introduction

This chapter contains the presentation of the data collected for the study, these data are presented into three major groups and other sub groups (based on their functions), and they include: complete reduplication (noun, pronoun, verb, adjectives/quantifiers) partial reduplication and rhyming reduplication (vowel alternation). The groups are further subdivided into

3.1 Complete Reduplication

These reduplicated words are reduplicated completely, having to play the functions of noun, pronoun, verb and adjectives/quantifiers

3.1.1 Noun

These reduplicated words are used to describe certain nouns and to tell of their special nature.

- 1a. dà-dá “Dreadlocks”
- b. dò-dò “Fried plantain”
- c. dú-dú “Fried yam”

3.1.2 Pronoun

These reduplicated words are used to describe certain nouns and to tell of their special nature.

- 2a. mà-mà “We”

- b. wà-wà “Them”
- c. mè-mè “Me”

3.1.3 Verb

These reduplicated words are used to describe special actions, verb reduplicated words in Etsako shows the seriousness of actions

- 3a. hò-hò “Blow” (with mouth)
- b. fò-fò “Blow” (with fan)

3.1.4 Adverb

These reduplicated words are used to used to show the degree of action performed by Etsako individuals

- 4a. fùà-fùà “To eat excessively”
- b. ña- ña- ña “Now” (hastily)

3.1.5 Adjectives/quantifiers

These reduplicated words are used to used to show the degree of action performed by Etsako individuals

- 5a. óbá-óbá “Many kings”
- b. óhò-óhò “Many birds”
- c. oṃeṃ-oṃeṃ “To talk too much”
- d. érò-érò “Bloody” (blood bath)

- e. éshì-éshì “To follow someone”
- f. mè-mè “Mad”
- g. lágá-lágá “Watery”
- h. gùògò-gùògò “Broken into pieces”
- i. óbò-óbò “Bare hands”
- j. yì-yì “Excellent”
- k. yò-yò “Huge”
- l. èké-ekè “Sandy”

3.2 Partial Reduplication

These reduplicated words are partially reduplicated and play the following functions just like the complete reduplication; noun, adverb and adjectives/quantifiers

3.2.1 Noun

These reduplicated words are used to describe certain nouns and to tell of their special nature.

- 6a. ùwà-wà “Clay pot”

3.2.2 Adverb

These reduplicated words are used to used to show the degree of action performed by Etsako individuals

- 7a. ègìè-gìè “Quickly”
- b. úrwómè-rwómè “Gazing at someone”
- c. òkhiàghò-ghò “To walk too much”

3.2.3 Quantifier/Adjectives

These reduplicated words are used to show quantity of this and to describe some nouns

- 8a. *éḗ-ḗ* “Just today”
- b. *íká-ká* “Plenty Dried fried yam”
- c. *òrù-rù* “Foolishness”
- d. *ukhò-khò* “Back”

3.3 Rhyming Reduplication

Rhyming reduplication is also referred to as rhyming and chiming reduplication or imitative reduplication, in this type of reduplication reduplicant copies the base with a change in certain element of the base, such as the consonants, syllables, or vowels, to create harmonizing sounds in pronunciation

3.3.1 Vowel Alternation

Here the vowel of the last syllable of the second rhymed word is altered

- 9a. *íyì-íyò* “So much holes”
- b. *òbó-òbá* “Bare” (raw)
- c. *ídí-ídó* “Plenty stones”

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

Reduplication is a prevalent and intriguing phenomenon in the Etsako, where it serves various linguistic functions such as emphasizing, intensifying, pluralizing, and indicating iterative actions. This chapter will carry out an analysis on the data collected by looking into the diverse patterns and functions of reduplication found within the language. The analysis will be done following the groupings done on the data in previous chapter.

4.1 Complete (full) reduplication

Full reduplication in Etsako involves the complete repetition of a word or a root. This pattern often serves to emphasize or intensify the meaning of the base word. From the data collected there are different functions of reduplication which include:

4.1.1 Noun

- | | |
|------------|------------------|
| 10a. dà-dá | “Dreadlocks” |
| b. dò-dò | “Fried plantain” |
| c. dú-dú | “Fried yam” |

These reduplicated words are used to describe certain nouns (names of items) and to tell of their special nature, they intensify the meaning of the names, for instance “dú-dú” is used to show how special fried yam taste in the mouth. These names are created out of convention and have no direct relationship with the meaning of the words.

4.1.2 Pronoun

- 11a. mà-mà “We”
- b. wà-wà “Them”
- c. mè-mè “Me”

Complete reduplicated words which are pronouns in Etsako are used to specify person(s) when a pronoun is use in reference.

For instance when someone says “mà” (we) they might not be specific on the “we” they are referring if there are a lots of people present the use of “mà-mà” (we) tells specifically which group is referred to. Same goes to “wà-wà” and “mè-mè”.

“wà-wà” (them) who and who are part of this “them” if there are a lot of persons present

“mè-mè” (me) tells/stress the importance of me, like “yes, it’s me”

	General	Specific
Me	----- mè	----- mè-mè
We	----- mà	----- mà-mà
Them	----- wà	----- wà-wà

4.1.3 Verb

- 12a. hò-hò “Blow” (with mouth)
- b. fò-fò “Blow” (with fan)

These sect of completereduplicated words are used to describe special actions, verb reduplicated words in Etsako shows the seriousness of actions, for instance “hò” means blow but until it is reduplicated as “hò-hò” before one can know if it is to blow with mouth

4.1.4 Adverb

- 13a. fùà-fùà “To eat excessively”
b. ja- ja- ja “Now” (hastily)

These kinds of complete reduplicated words are used to used to show the degree of action performed by Etsako individuals, they intensify the function of the adverbs

4.1.5 Adjectives/quantifiers

These reduplicated words are used to used to show the degree of action performed by Etsako individuals

- 14a. óbá-óbá “Many kings”
b. óhò-óhò “Many birds”
c. ome-ome “To talk too much”
d. érò-érò “Bloody” (blood bath)
e. éshì-éshì “To follow someone”

These complete reduplicated words are used to reflect quantity and also to qualify nouns (adjective), these functions are shown in the 5a, b, c, d and e.

In Etsako “óbá” means king, while its complete reduplication means many king, same goes to “óhò” which means bird and its complete reduplicated form óhò-óhò (many kings)

4.2 Partial Reduplication

Partial reduplication entails the repetition of only a part of the base word, often the initial or final syllable. This pattern contributes to creating plurals, indicating repetition, or modifying the sense of the original word. These reduplicated words are partially reduplicated and play the following functions just like the complete reduplication; noun, adverb and adjectives/quantifiers, they have some of their partial reduplicated parts to be morphological component that stress their functions

4.2.1 Noun

15a. ùwà-wà “Clay pot”

These reduplicated words are used to describe certain nouns and to tell of their unique nature, these carry morphological components to stress the nature of the nouns

Just like the complete reduplicated nouns, they intensify the meaning of the names

4.2.2 Adverb

16a. ègìè-gìè “Quickly”

b. úrwómè-rwómè “Gazing at someone”

c. òkhiàghò-ghò “To walk too much”

These reduplicated words are used to used to show the degree of action performed by Etsako individuals

4.2.3 Quantifier/Adjectives

17a. élé-lé “Just today”

b. íká-ká “Plenty Dried fried yam”

c. òrù-rù “Foolishness”

d. ukhò-khò “Back”

These reduplicated words are used to show quantity of this and to describe some nouns, these words are reduplicated completely at the first part and a partial part is reduplicated as a morphological component to stress their quantity and qualifying of nouns, just as in “é|é-|é” “íká-ká” and “òrù-rù”.

4.3 Rhyming Reduplication

Rhyming reduplication is also referred to as rhyming and chiming reduplication or imitative reduplication, in this type of reduplication reduplicant copies the base with a change in certain element of the base, such as the consonants, syllables, or vowels, to create harmonizing sounds in pronunciation

4.3.1 Vowel Alternation

Here the vowel of the last syllable of the second rhymed word is altered

18a. íyì-íyò “So much holes”

b. òbó-òbá “Bare” (raw)

c. ìdí-ìdó “Plenty stones”

In this reduplication, the vowel of the last syllable of the reduplicant is uttered and changed, the uttering of these vowels creates a special function for the word, here the base words are the second reduplicated words while the morphological components are the first and the examples above reflect that; “íyì-íyò” “so much holes” “iyò” means holes” and “iyì” is the morphological component that stress the quantity of holes.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

In this chapter, we provide the summary of the findings presented in the preceding chapters, draw meaningful conclusions from the analysis of reduplicated words in Etsako, and offer recommendations for further research and practical applications.

5.1 Summary of the Study

Throughout this study, we explored the significance of reduplication in Etsako. We began by looking into the background of the study, which include the aims, significance and methodology employed for the study in the chapter one, subsequently chapter two presented a comprehensive review of previous works of literature related to this study, and highlights the significance of the morphological doubling analytical tool as a theoretical framework, chapter three presented the data for the study placing the data into groups of reduplicated words, based on the type of reduplication in Etsako and their functions, chapter three presented the analysis for the study by looking into the linguistic features and structure of reduplicated words in Etsako, their morphological, phonological and semantic roles, and the various categories they fall into. By analyzing a substantial corpus of texts, we identified patterns in the usage of these reduplicated terms and their associated characteristics.

5.2 Summary of Findings

The analysis of the data collected revealed several functions of reduplication in Etsako, they include:

- **Intensity and Emphasis:** One primary function of reduplication in the Etsako is to intensify or emphasize the meaning of a word. By duplicating a word, speakers add a layer of emphasis to the conveyed message. Example: 5d. “érò-érò” Bloody (blood bath), shows how intense the situation of the blood flow is.
- **Pluralization:** Reduplication plays a significant role in forming plural nouns in Etsako. This function involves the reduplication of a noun to express a plural entity. Example: 5a. “óḃá-óḃá” Many kings and 5b “óḃò-óḃò” Many birds
- **Iterative Action:** Reduplication is also employed to indicate repeated or iterative actions. By reduplicating verbs, speakers can convey the idea of performing an action multiple times, this is evident in the example 3a. “hòhò” Blow (with mouth) and 3b “fò-fò” Blow (with fan)
- **Expressing Diversity:** Reduplication in Etsako can be used to express diversity within a category. This function involves reduplicating adjectives or nouns to convey a range of qualities or types. Example 8c. “òrù-rù” Foolishness
- **Onomatopoeia and Mimicry:** Reduplication is often used in Etsako to create onomatopoeic words that imitate sounds from the natural world. Example 1b, “dò-dò” Fried plantain and 1c. “dú-dú” Fried yam
- **Frequency and Distribution of Reduplication:** The occurrence of reduplication in the Etsako is widespread and found across various lexical categories, including nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. While some reduplication patterns are more common in specific contexts, the phenomenon remains a versatile linguistic tool in the language.

The prevalence of reduplication in Etsako not only showcases the language's intricate structure but also reveals insights into the cognitive and cultural aspects of its speakers. The diverse functions of reduplication highlight how language can summarize special meanings and cultural practices, contributing to the rich nature of Etsako linguistic expression.

5.3 Conclusion

The phenomenon of reduplication in Etsako is a complex linguistic feature. Through a thorough analysis of reduplication patterns in Etsako, it becomes evident that this process serves various functions. The repetition of elements in reduplication not only contributes to the visual appeal of the language but also provides crucial information regarding tense, plurality, and intensification. Furthermore, the patterns of reduplication in Etsako shed light on the underlying structures of the language. Consequently, reduplication plays a significant role in the overall linguistic system of Etsako, and further investigation is essential in order to fully comprehend its intricacies.

In conclusion, this study has provided an in-depth analysis of reduplication in the Etsako, uncovering their linguistic, cultural, and social importance. The findings serve as a stepping stone for future research and efforts to preserve the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Etsako linguistics community.

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