

VERBS OF PERCEPTION IN YORUBA LANGUAGE

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CERTIFICATION

I certify that this research was carried out by **Eragbhe-Omole Calista**, in the Department of Linguistics Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Benin, under my supervision.

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PLAGIARISM CERTIFICATION PAGE

I, **Eragbhe-Omole Calista** with the matriculation number **ART1601243** declare that this work titled “**VERBS OF PERCEPTION IN YORUBA LANGUAGE**” has successfully passed the Anti-plagiarism test (which is 12%) and so does not violate any copy write regulation.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to the Almighty God who saw me through. The author and finisher of it all, my pillar, strong tower. My life giver, covenant keeping God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

First of all, I would like to thank the Almighty God the Supreme power, the giver of life who guided me to work on the right path. Without His Sufficient Grace, this project would not become a reality. My parents, MR & MRS ERAGBHE-OMOLE who provide me a means of transportation to my areas of data collection. I love you mum and dad. I am also thankful to my siblings, MISS ERAGBHE-OMOLE SCHOLASTICA, MR ERAGBHE-OMOLE GERALD, MISS ERAGBHE-OMOLE EMILIA whose words of tenacity rings in my ears. I acknowledge my lecturers who have always been helping and encouraging me through out the years and friends OLAYEMI, TOSIN, IFY, HAPPINESS, IMUETIYAN who stood by me and showered me with words of encouragement.

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ABSTRACT

The correct, proper interpretation and application of perceptual verbs in English is a major challenge to the Yoruba learners. The topic "PERCEPTUAL VERBS" such as "look, see, taste, hear, touch, smell, e.t.c. is an unresolved problem for linguistic theories. This work examines the meaning and understanding of the various perceptual verbs in relation to Yoruba language. Languages differ in their number of basic verbs that describe perceptual experiences. Some languages have only two of such verbs. One for visual perception, another for non-visual perception. Yoruba is a language of verbs which has different verbs for each perception. This research work is aimed at solving perceptual verb problems, educating people on the true meaning and reality of perception. I collected the data in Lagos state by choosing from random people with potentials in Yoruba language. People who speak the language profoundly, scholars in the language. The providers of the data of this research work were "twenty one old generation speakers" and "thirteen new /younger generation of Yoruba speakers". These two generational speakers gave amazing feedbacks just that the older generation feedback was more competent as they had the translation to all the verbs I provided them with. The new generation now mix English with their Yoruba when speaking while the older generation make use of pure Yoruba. This work is laid out in five different chapters followed by the references and appendix. The work allocates the semantic perceptual verbs that fall under the five classes of perceptual verbs into their various classifications.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This work is a research work based on the Yoruba language, standard Yoruba language. Yoruba is a language spoken in West Africa, most prominently Southwestern Nigeria. It is spoken by the ethnic Yoruba people. The number of Yoruba speakers is estimated at 45 and 55 million. As a pluricentric language, it is primarily spoken in a dialectical area spanning Nigeria, Benin and Togo with smaller migrated communities in cote d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone and The Gambia. Yoruba is classified among the Edekiri languages, which together with the Itsekiri and the isolate Igala form the Yoruboid group of languages within the Volta_ Niger branch of the Niger_ Congo family. "WIKIPEDIA".

The Yoruba people are known for their great skills in farming, hair making, adire clothings and many more e.t.c. The standard or literary Yoruba as used in this research work is the written form of the language, the standard variety learned at school and that spoken by newsreaders on the

radio. The vast majority of the Yoruba population is from Nigeria, where the Yoruba make up 15.5% of the country's population, making them one of the largest ethnic groups in Africa.

METHODOLOGY / THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.

1.1 Methodology.

The method and technique used in this research work is elicitation and strict inquiry method (Direct from the native and original speaker of Yoruba). The elicitation was extracted from natives of Yoruba in Lagos state, Shomolu local government area. Having interacted with Yoruba speakers who happened to be elderly sons and daughters of the soil who are obvious competent speakers of the language. I also met with the young and new generation of the language just to be clear and to discover if there were any difference or changes in the language between the older generation natives and the new generation natives of Yoruba.

All of the perceptual verbs as used by me in this work have been tested for grammaticality by the true speakers of Yoruba language. Few of the data

were heard from competent actors in Yoruba subtitled movies. The method of data collection that was used for this study is PRIMARY. It is a primary method of data collection in the sense that I, the humble composer of this project met one on one with my informants. I visited and sat amongst Yoruba native speakers and fed them with questioners which they devoured and gave amazing feedbacks which I will be serving in this menu.

1.2 The Theoretical Framework

This work is a prototype of LEXICAL SEMANTICS. It offers the major traditions of word meaning research in linguistics. Lexical semantics is also known as LEXICOSEMANTICS. It is a subfield of linguistics with lexical units of analysis which include not only words but also sub-words or sub-units such as affixes and compound words. Lexical semantics as used in this work examines words in Yoruba language, the lexicon. It looks at how the meaning of the lexical units correlate with the structure of the language. It focuses on the classification and decomposition of lexical items, the relationship of lexical meaning to sentence meaning and syntax.

Lexical semantics also explores whether the meaning of a lexical unit is established by looking at its neighborhood in the semantic net (words it occurs with in natural sentences) or whether the meaning is already locally contained in the lexical unit.

First proposed by Trier in the 1930's, semantic field theory proposes that a group of words interrelated meanings can be categorized under a larger conceptual domain. The entire entity is thereby known as SEMANTIC FIELD. The verbs (See, hear, touch, taste, smell) as used in this work fall under the larger semantic category of perception. Semantic field theory asserts that lexical meaning cannot be fully understood by looking at a word in isolation but by looking at a group of semantically related words.

This research work focuses on PERCEPTUAL VERBS, its relations to human and their sense organs. Perceptual verbs can be linked to our five sense organs (The eye, ear, skin, nose and the tongue). Perception can be a single act and equally a general act of sense. Also, this work classifies perceptual verbs under five perceptual verb stages.

1.3. Statement of the Problem.

It is very necessary to critically examine the role of verbs of perception in languages. Perception is how people see things. Perception has to do with the general senses, the five sense organs (the eye, ear, tongue, skin, and nose) Perceptual verbs are verbs used in describing perception. They describe sensing as they are involved with the sense organs. No wonder perception is an everyday use. If perception is this important, I wonder why is less regarded in languages. Why is there less concern on the classification of verbs of perception among languages? Why is "verbs of perception" not a part of the "classification of verbs" in Yoruba language.

Perceptual verbs have not really been given adequate attention and a proper study on perception has not been carried out and treated in Yoruba language and languages in general. This project therefore aims at bringing, throwing more light to the study of the various perceptual verbs and its pattern in Yoruba language.

1.4 Purpose of the Study

This study seeks to examine the inherent semantic dispositions of perceptual verbs in the standard Yoruba language.

The following are the fundamental purpose of the learners.

1. To introduce perceptual verbs as a new classification of verbs in Yoruba language and other languages respectively.
2. To properly classify perceptual verbs in Yoruba language.
3. To conceptualize the verbs of perception in Yoruba language.
4. To show the semantic properties of verbs of perception in Yoruba language.
5. To showcase the ambiguity of each perceptual verbs in Yoruba language.

1.5 Research Questions.

1. How can verbs of perception be classified in Yoruba language.
2. How does verbs of perception conceptualize among Yoruba speakers.

3. What constitute the semantic properties of verbs of perception in Yoruba language.

4. What is the degree of ambiguity in verbs of perception.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The findings of this study will rebound to the benefit of the society considering that Yoruba verbs of perception play an important role in the development of Yoruba sensing vocabulary. Schools, institutions and even the Yoruba language speakers that apply the recommended perceptual verbs derived from the result of this study will be able to train students and language learners of perceptual verbs better. Very importantly, more, extra knowledge concerning perception has been included in this research which is an edge for the Yoruba speakers, teachers as well as the learners. They will now have more perceptual verbs vocabularies to fall back to.

This work serves as a new classification criteria or framework in verbs of perception in Yoruba language and other language respectively.

The principles and procedures adopted in the analysis of the perceptual verbs have provided an alternative for future studies in Yoruba verbs and verbs in other languages respectively.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter entails works carried out by other scholars and their relationship with the present study on verbs of Perception.

The chapter gives us an overview of what other scholars have written concerning verbs with concepts of this study which include meaning of verbs, the types of verbs, classes of verbs. It also includes the approaches to the study of verbs. Various scholars from different languages have worked on verbs and have shown the peculiarities of these verbs.

This chapter will entail;

1. The introduction as shown above.
2. The conceptual review.
3. The previous studies.
4. The present studies. ETC.

2.0 Verbs of Perception

Verbs of perception are those verbs in which we use to describe perceptions.

They are See, Hear, Touch, Taste, Smell, Feel, e.t.c.

2.1 What is Perception ?

Perception is all about how we perceive reality with our senses. Perception is a conscious understanding of something. It is vision (ability); It is acuity.

Perception put us in a cognitive state of mind. That which is detected by the five (5) senses, that which is detected within consciousness as a thought, intuition, deduction e.t.c. A basic prototypical perception situation seems to be concerned with at least one of the two basic participants.

The perceiver (Experiencer).

The perceived (Stimulus)

The participants may be involved in a certain perceptual relation that might get a variety of different interpretations by the users of language.

The typology of intrafield polysemy patterns of sensory verbs (SEE, HEAR, TOUCH, SMELL, TASTE.) was first explored by VIBERG (1984). He observed that languages differ in their number of basic Perception verbs. whereas, some languages like English have a verb for each of the five senses (VISION, HEARING, TOUCHING, TASTING, SMELLING). Other languages combined multiple sensory modalities which come into existence through meaning extension where a verb that originally refer to a single sensory modality acquire additional meaning. viberg (1983) assumes that perception verbs that encode multiple sensory modalities are polygamous and the traditional five senses are the basic concepts of perception to be lexicalized in the languages of the world. Some cultures may have different ways of thinking about sensory experience. They could view the mind as a sixth sense (CLASSEN 1993:2) or conceive of a sense of balance (GEURTS 2002)

(HOWES 2006) observes that speakers of several malanesian as well as African languages talk about "hearing a smell" and connects this to what he

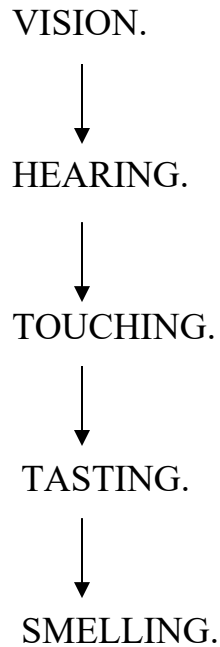
calls "AUDIO - OLFATORY SYNTHESIS" (Cultural conflation of the two sensory modalities).

EXAMPLE; Mò n gbò ohun òbe nàà.

I can hear the smell of the soup.

The Yoruba language as shown in the example above is a very good example of a language that expresses "hearing a smell". It is an "AUDIO-OLFACTORY SYNESTHESIA" type of language. The language depicts a great show of "PERSONIFICATION" whereby the smell of the soup is given human attributes of talking. This is the reason why the sentence, "I can hear the smell of the soup" is acceptable in Yoruba language but not in English language. We would also be observing some links between particular sensory modalities and particular meaning in the domain of cognition in a number of languages. (SWEETSER 1990) explains the link by referring to specific properties of our sensory modalities that can be mapped into cognitive processes. Vision is connected to the intellect, with vision verbs coming to mean "KNOW and UNDERSTAND". The meaning

extension of perceptual verbs follow a link with "VISION" at the top followed by "HEARING" then "TOUCHING" then "TASTING" and lastly "SMELLING".



VIBERG (1983).

Viberg's (1984) demonstrates that verbs for HEAR can be extended to cover visual experiences. It does not undermine, however, the synchronicity version of this hypothesis. "If a language has a single basic verb for HEAR takes over the domain of visual experience completely, its (synchronic

semantic prototype will shift to SEE due to universal properties of human perception.)

2.2 what is a Verb?

A verb is a word used to define an action, state or an activity and forming the main part of the predicate of a sentence, such as "HEAR" (GBÒ) "BECOME" (NJÉ) "HAPPEN" (SE). The study is to investigate perceptual verbs in Yoruba language as well as their documentaries.

2.3 Concepts of Verbs in Yoruba

As we have seen above, verbs are words used to depict action, therefore, in Yoruba, the infinitive form of the verb usually called the "INFINITIVE MARKER" which refers to the most simple aspect of the verb initialized by the word "TO"

EXAMPLE ; To see --> (N - wò)

To - see.

2) To hear --> (N - gbò)

To - hear.

Verbs are also used to highlight an action (I drive) "Mo mà n wa òkó"

These verbs can either be in the present tense form, past tense form and the future tense form. some of the examples are ;

2.4 Present Tense Form.

I sell food. --> Mò má n tá ounjè.

Do you sell food ? --> Sé iwò má n tà ounjè ?

He/she sells food. --> O n tá ounjè.

2.5 The Past Tense Form.

I went to Lagos. --> Mò lò si Ekò.

You went to Lagos. --> Iwó ló si Ekò.

He went to Lagos. --> O ló si Ekò.

2.6 The Future Tense Form.

I will drink tea. --> Mò má mù tii.

will you drink tea? --> Sé iwó mámuù tii.

He will drink tea. --> Omà mù tii.

The present tense form sometimes is in its ING form.

Verb + ING --> A part of an action, not a complete one.

EXAMPLE; Mo gbó àràbinrin mi ti n dùn dúrù.

I heard my sister playING the piano.

The example above shows that she is playing the piano before and after I heard her plus I didn't stay there and listen the whole time.

The past tense form shows an already completed action. It usually ends with the "ed" form.

Verb +Infinitive --> A completed action.

(Without "TO")

EXAMPLE ; Mo ri àràbinrin mi n dùn duru.

I saw my sister as she played the piano.

This form shows that "I was present from the beginning till end of the performance. (Sub + Sense verb +Obj + Verb)

This structure shows that one has seen or heard the action completely.

Several works of various scholars have shown that some verbs of perception (SEE, LOOK AT, HEAR, LISTEN TO, FEEL, WATCH e.t.c.) can be used with objects followed by other verbs. (base form or Gerund but not infinitives)

EXAMPLE 1; We heard you leave.

A gbò ngbá tò n ló.

This example above emphasizes on "our hearing".

EXAMPLE 2; We heard you leaving.

A gbò ngbá tí ò n ló.

This second example on the other hand emphasizes more on "your leaving"

Certain verbs of perception are followed by either the simple form or the -ING form of verbs. Using either forms show little or no difference in

meaning. However sometimes, there is a clear difference between using the simple form or the -ING form. The simple form shows that we experienced the action from the beginning to the end.

NOTE that "you cannot use verbs of perception with the past form of gerunds.

Example: Mò rí n ti n ju.

I saw him having been robbed.

(How is it possible that you can even see this action happen afterwards?)

Verbs of perception show that you can perceive something in progress or from the beginning to the end not after.

Therefore these verbs of perceptions are seen from different angles in various languages and must be carefully studied and regarded.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 DATA PRESENTATION

The research work in this chapter is focused on these areas:

1. Presentation of the Yoruba perceptual verbs data. How verbs of perception are used in Yoruba by Yoruba speaking variety of language dialect.
2. The five classifications of those perceptual verbs, which are grouped under verbs of seeing, verbs of hearing, verbs of touching, verbs of tasting and verbs of smelling.

The data which will be presented below were collected thorough one on one interaction, a face to face questioning and answering medium. The data show which and which perceptual verb is used in a particular perceptual setting from the Yoruba speakers which involve 8 elderly people of 5 men and 3 women, 5 young adults(The younger generation) whereby 3 of them are ladies and 2 gentle men. The data collection was a stress less one as the informants were very hospitable.

3.1 Yoruba Verbs for "Seeing"

	STANDARD YORUBA	TRANSLATIONS
1	Rí	see
2	Wò	Look
3	Àkíyésí	notice
4	Wò	watch
5	Kíyésí	Observe
6	Wíwò	view
7	Kiri	Goggle
8	Àyèwò	examine
9	Sàyèwò	scrutinize
10	Wò	Gaze
11	Kojú	Stare
12	Nwo	Gawk
13	Wò	Glance
14	Loju	Peer
15	Jíwò	Peep

16	Iwoyé	Glimpse
17	Wò	Behold
18	Ojú	Sight
19	Kúnrin	Leer
20	Yojú	Peek
21	LANUWO	Gape
22	Olòjé	Scan
23	Didàn	Glare
24	Àlàbà	Glower
25	Irànràn	Spot
26	Dajújí	Squint
27	Ojú rògòd	Eyeball
28	Wò	Gander.
29	Kiri	Browse.

3.2 Yoruba "Hearing Verbs".

	Standard yoruba.	Translation.
1	Gbó	Hear
2	Tétísí	Listen
3	Fetísí	Heed
4	Gbígbó	Pickup
5	Fetíkó	Eavesdrop
6	Agbòn	Hark
7	Gbá	Get
8	Fietisi	Give ears
9	Farabale Gbo / Fiyesi	Pay attention
10	Igàrà	Strain
11	Ngbó	Overhear
12	Mú	Catch

13	Gbàwolé	Take in
14	Lòùn	Attend
15	Ìmísí	Auscultate
16	Òye	Apprehend
17	Ikùkùn	Descry
18	Párùn	Devour
19	Ígbòjádè	Hear out
20	Gbó	Hearken
21	Wín eti	Lend ears
22	Gbesókè	Pickup
23	Sóra	Take heed
24	Etíkún	Earful

3.3 Yoruba "Touching Verbs"

	Standard Yoruba	Translation
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1	KAN	Touch.
2	LERO	Feel
3	Fowóbà	Tap.
4	Fowóra	Caress.
5	Mú	Handle.
6	Dìmú	Hold.
7	Gbé	Pick up.
8	Gbekúró	Move
9	Tè	Press.
10	Ìtó	Pat.
11	Títè	Nudge.
12	Fikábà	Prod.
13	Fowóbà	Poke.
14	Tì	Push.
15	Fàmóra / Dimù	Hug.

16	Mímú	Grip.
17	Fowópa	Rub.
18	Lù	Hit
19	Fún pò	Squeeze.
20	Àtànjàkò	Thumb.
21	Ìka	Finger.
22	Kíkò	Tickle.
23	Lù	Beat.
24	Féràn	Fondle.
25	Ogbé	Stroke.
26	Aìbálè okàn	Sensation.
27	Imolàrà / Edùn	Emotion.
28	Ìfé	Love.

29	Ìdùnú	Happiness.
30	Ìbánújé	Sadness.
31	Ìjáyà	Fear.
32	Dájú/ Ìyàlénu	Surprise.
33	Ìbínú	Anger.
34	Ìkórira	Disgust.
35	Ègàn / Ìkégàn	Contempt.
36	Ìgbéràga	Pride.
37	Ìtijú	Shame

3.4 Yoruba "Tasting Verbs"

	Standard Yoruba	Translation
1	Ìtówò	Taste.
2	Ohun ìtówò	Taste bud.
3	Adùn	Flavour.
4	Gbádùn	Relish.

5	Ìtówò Agbára	Tang taste.
6	Ìtówò dídùn	Sweet taste.
7	Ìtówò Kíkorò	Bitter taste.
8	Ìtówò kíkan	Sour taste.
9	Ìtówò iyò	Salty taste.
10	Ìtówò ìgbádùn	Savor taste.
11	Ìtówò ìrora	Pungent taste
12	Ìtówò ìkára	Astringent taste
13	Ìtówò kikorò adùn	Bitter sweet taste.

Yoruba “Smelling Vebs”

	Standard Yoruba.	Translation.
1	Órùn	Smell
2	Oórùn áládùn	Aroma.
3	Lófíndà	Perfume.
4	Órùn dídùn	SCENT
5	Órùn bíbàje	Stink.
6	Órùn dídùn / órùn áládùn..	Fragrance.
7	Órùn burúkú	Odor / odour.
8	Lódì	Essence.
9	Rùnrùn	Pong.
10	Órùn	Melador.
11	Rún	Reek.

12	Órùn	Olfactory.
13	Wòye/ gbó órùn	Perceive.
14	Órùn dídùn	Bonquet.
15	Sààrá	Snuff.
16	Èrò	Aura.
17	Ìwò	Whiff.
18	Fàwolé /Símú	Inhale.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 Introduction

In this section the breaking down and expansion of data presented in the previous chapter are properly analyzed. This chapter groups these verbs into five classes and gives examples under each.

4.1 Verbs of Perception

The verb of perception in Yoruba as presented in this data in chapter three include verbs of "seeing", "touching", "hearing", "tasting", "smelling"

4.1.1 Verbs of Seeing

Yoruba verbs of seeing (wo) verb is a vision verb. it is called "IRO WIWO" in Yoruba language (vision verb) Let us take a look at the classification of the wo verb morphological and structurally. The examples in 1(a)-(j) below shows the morphological representation on the verbs of the verbs of seeing outside content.

1a	Rí	See
b	Wò	look
c	Àkíyésí	notice
d	kiri	goggle
e	Àyèwò	examine
f	Kojú	Stare
g	Iwoyé	glimpse
h	Ojú	Sight
i	Lanuwò	Gape
j	Ojú rògòdò	Eyeball

The examples in 2(a) _ (j) below are the contextual investigation of the verbs imposed.

2(a) Ríí ; (See)

To view with the eye.

Mò rí ilé-iwé mi.

I see house school me.

I saw my school.

(b) Wò ; (Watch)

To observe with eyes over time.

Ómò kèkerè nàà n wò téléfisiònu.

Child small the is watching television.

The child is watching television.

(c) Àkíyésí (Notice)

The act of observing or paying attention to something.

A sẹ́ ákíyésí pé ómòkùnrin nàà ni ibànujè.

We did notice that boy boychild was sad.

We did notice that the boy was sad.

(d) Kiri (Goggle)

To look with the eye wide open in surprise or shock.

Awon ènìyán n lò kiri lòri rẹ bi éni pé o wà Làti àye miiràn.

The people were googling at her like someone from another planet.

(e) Àyèwò (Examine)

To observe, check out and look over carefully.

Jè ki a sé àyèwò dié ninú awòn àrà mi.

May we examine some of articles those my.

May we examine some of these my articles.

(f) Kojú (Stare)

To look at something for a long time with the eyes wide open.

Mo nifè làti kojú ómò mi làkòkò to ñ sùn.

I love to stare baby me while sleeping.

I love to stare at my baby while sleeping.

(g) Iwoyé (Glimpse)

Having a passing view of something or someone.

O mù Iwóye iranran ààre làárin awon eniyàn.

He caught glimpse of president among the crowd.

He caught a glimpse of the president among the crowd.

(h) Òjú (Sight)

To see for the first time.

Emi ó fi òjú ri eniyàn kànkàn.

I did not sight body any.

I did not sight anybody.

(i) Lànuwò (Gape)

To look at something with ones mouth open.

O lànuwò bi fiimù NSA.

She gaped in surprise him.

She gaped at him in surprise.

(j) Ojú rògòdò (Eyeball)

To look directly or closely.

Tope fi ojù rògòdò àrèwà obinrin ni ibi ayèyé nàà.

Tope eyeballed beautiful girl at party the.

Tope eyeballed a beautiful girl at the party.

The examples in 1(a)-(j) represents perceptual verbs of seeing in Yoruba language. As seen in the examples, the verb "wo" has a semantic reading of perception, as the eyes is considered a sense organ. What one sees originates some kind of imagery, and sense to the person. What you can see, you

express, therefore seeing is believing. As a result, the verb "wo" is analyzed as a perceptual verb.

4.1.2 Verbs of Hearing

The examples as shown in 3(a)-(j) below indicate the morphological verbs of hearing. These verbs all depict hearing. These verbs of hearing (Gbò) deals with hearing, perception of sounds with the ear, to connect with sounds, to tell where sounds are coming from and the type of sound perceived.

3a

a	Gbó	Hear.
b	Tétísí	Listen.
c	Gbígbó	Pickup.
d	Agbón	Hark.
e	Fárábàlè gbó	Pay attention.
f	Mú	Catch.

g	Gbàwolé	Take in.
h	Imisi	Auscultate.
i	Wín etí	Lend ears.
j	Etíkún	Earful.

The examples in 4(a)-(j) represents perceptual verbs of hearing in Yoruba language.

4(a) Gbó (Hear)

To perceive (sounds) with the ear.

Se o n gbó mi?

Can you hear me?

Can you hear me?

(b) Tétísí (Listen)

To give attention with the ears.

Tétísí ohún ti o n Látí sò.

Listen to what he has to say.

Listen to what he has to say.

(c) Gbígbó (pickup)

To receive a signal or sound.

Gbígbé awón ohún ti o fo lejè ààpòn.

Picking up the voice cracked can be stressing.

Picking up cracked voices can be stressing.

(d) Agbón (Hark)

To pay attention and listen carefully.

Gbón si órò rẹ̀.

Hark to word his.

Hark to his words.

(e) Fárábàlè gbó (Pay attention)

To listen carefully.

Fárábàlè gbó si ohùn ti mo n só.

Pay attention to what I am saying.

Pay attention to what I am saying.

(f) Mú (Catch)

The act of hearing, noticing or understanding.

Emì ko mú ohùn ti o só.

I didn't catch what he said.

I didn't catch what he said.

(g) Gbáwolè (Take in)

To perceive into the mind.

Mo gbíyànjù lati gbá ohùn ti o só.

I tried to take what he was saying.

I tried taking in what he was saying.

(h) Ìmísí (Auscultate)

To listen to the sounds inside the body (medicine)

Aya ìmísí fí hàn mimi awòn ohún.

Chest auscultation revealed reduced breathing sounds.

Chest auscultation revealed breathing sounds.

(i) Wín etí (Lend ears)

To listen to someone carefully and attentively.

Wín mi ni etí rẹ emi o sò fun nípa irín ájò mi.

Lend me ears your and I will tell you about adventures me

Lend me your ears and I will tell you about my adventures.

(j) Etíkún (Earful)

An outpouring of anger, news or gossip.

Mo ti ni Etíkún kún láti ààbó lori rè.

I got an earful from the security on you.

I got an earful from the security on you.

The verb "Gbo" includes the structural arrangement of sounds going into the ear. According to "Howes" (2006), speakers of several Malanesian as well as African languages talk about "hearing a smell" and connect this to what he calls AUDIO OLFATORY SYNESTHESIA.

First of all, you may begin to think. Is this even possibly? How is it possible that you can hear the smell of something? This question pop up due to the cultural conflation of the two sensory modalities which are "hear and smell". But then again, it is very possible because sometimes, when you perceive something through your nose, you would want to express it more than you have perceived it. E.g when a sweet scent pass through your nose, you feel you can smell it, hear it, taste it and even touch it E.T.C.

EXAMPLE: Mo n gbó adùn bimo nàà.

I can hear the scent of the soup.

4.1.3 Verbs of Touching

The examples in 5(a)-(j) below represents the morphological arrangement of the verbs of touching and how touching is employed. You touch something to feel it, to know its state, texture, pressure e.t.c. The Oxford English dictionary reports that the use of touch/feel as a copula, defined as To be consciously perceived as having a specified quality to produce sensation or to give the impression of being, to seem".

5a	Kàn	Touch.
b	Lérò	Feel.
c	Fówobà	Tap.
d	Mú	Handle.

e	Gbé .	Pickup
f	Tè	Press.
g	Fàmóra	Hug.
h	Fúnpò	Squeeze.
i	Ìkà	Finger.
j	Kíkò	Tickle.

These examples in 6(a)-(j) below shows a contextual investigation of the verb of touching.

6(a) kàn (Touch)

To physically sense with the hand.

Má se fi ówó kán mi.

Do not touch me.

Do not touch me.

(b) Lérò (Feel)

To be aware of through touch.

Mo Lérò pè Jesu n bò.

I feel that Jesus is coming.

I feel that jesus is coming

(c) Fówobà (Tap)

To hit something gently.

Mo gbò ti n Fówobà ikà rẹ lori tábilí.

I could hear him tapping fingers his on the desk.

I could hear him tapping his fingers on the desk.

(d) Mú (Handle)

To feel or manipulate with the hands.

Erù ohún ni o wa lẹ lati mú.

Heavy objects are difficult to handle.

Heavy objects are difficult to handle.

(e) Gbé (Pickup)

To take hold of and lift or move.

Mo gbé iwé iróhin kàn.

I pickup magazine a.

I pickedup a magazine.

(f) Tè (Press)

To apply pressure.

O tè mi mò ògìrì.

He pressed me to the wall.

He pressed me to the wall.

(g) Fàmórà (Hug)

To squeeze tightly in one's arms.

O gbà fàmórà.

He closely hugged.

He closely hugged her.

(H) Fùnpò (Squeeze)

To press something firmly.

Fùnpò oje nàà lati inu osán nàà.

Squeeze the juice out of orange the.

Squeeze the juice out of the orange.

(i) Ìka (Finger)

To touch or feel with the fingers.

O fi ìkà si etè rè.

She put finger to lips her.

She put a finger to her lips.

(j) Kíkò (Tickle)

Lightly touch or pod to cause laughter.

O kiko mi.

He tickled me.

He tickled me.

These examples in 6(a)-(j) are perceptual verbs of touching in Yoruba language. Touch triggers feelings. Touching brings about a sensational feeling. In these examples in 6(a)-(j), the touch was unexpected and a feeling was involved. When you touch something your whole body tells you how it feels. What you cannot see your feelings are what you believe in. What you feel, you believe.

4.1.4 Verbs of Tasting

Taste is a verb of perception which simply means to perceive or to experience a flavor or to have experience in something. When something is tasted, there is a sensation of flavor perceived in mouth and throat in contact with the substance. The examples in 7(a)-(j) below show the morphological representation of the verb of tasting.

7a	Ìtówò	Taste.
b	Adùn	Flavor.
c	Ìtówò àgàrà	Tang.
d	Ìtówò dídùn	Sweet taste.
e	Ìtówò Kíkòrò	Bitter taste.
f	Ìtówò kíkán	Sour taste.
g	Ìtówò iyò	Salty taste.
h	Ìtówò ìgbádùn	Savor taste.

i	Ìtówò ìròrà	Pungent taste.
j	Ìtówò ikárahún	Astringent taste.

The examples in 8(a)-(j) below shows the contextual investigation of the verb of tasting.

8(a) Ìtówò (Taste)

To have a feeling of something with the tongue.

O tówò obè mi.

He tasted soup me.

He tasted my soup.

(b) Adùn (Flavor)

The distinctive taste of a food or drink.

Wàrà wà ni awòn àdùn orísìrísì mèjò.

Yogurt comes in flavor different eight.

The yoghurt comes in eight different flavors.

(c) Ìtówò àgbàrà (Tang)

A strong taste or flavor.

Okùn ni ìtówò àgbàrà.

Sea has taste tang.

The sea has a tang taste.

(d) Ìtówò dídùn (Sweet taste)

Perceived when eating food with sugar.

Óunjé nàà ni ìtówò dídùn aláilegbè.

Food the has a taste sweet unique.

The food has a sweet unique taste.

(e) Ìtówò Kikòrò (Bitter taste)

Affects the tongue, causing a reaction in the face.

Kofi jé Kikòrò ju.

Coffee is bitter too.

Coffee is too bitter.

(f) Ìtówò ekán (Sour taste)

Causes a sharp sensation in the taste buds (slapping taste)

Irú eso dídùn ni ìtówò ekán.

Strawberries have taste sour.

Strawberries have sour taste.

(g) Ìtówò iyò (Salty taste)

Containing or field of salt.

Awón ómijè jé iyò.

Tears are salty.

Tears are salty.

(h) Ìtòwò ìgbádùn (Savor taste)

A pleasant taste, flavor.

Bólá fé láti gbádùn ni gbògbò igbà.

Bólà wanted to savor every moment.

Bólà wanted to savor every moment.

(i) Ìtówò irórà (Pungent taste)

Having a sharply strong taste.

Agbò iyá Risi ni ìtówò irórà.

Herbs iyá Risi have taste pungent.

Iyá Risi herbs have pungent taste.

(j) Ìtówò ikáráhùn (Astringent taste)

Slightly acidic or bitter.

Ewé yén ni Itówò ikáráhùn.

Leave that has taste astringent.

That leave is astringent in taste.

The examples seen in 8(a)-(j) are perceptual verbs of tasting. These verbs have been morphologically and contextually treated above. Taste is a perception produced or stimulated when a substance in the mouth reacts chemically with fast receptor cells located on the taste buds in the oral cavity, mostly on the tongue. Taste is immediately perceived just as the substance is dropped on the tongue except in cases where there is a fault in the taste buds. Taste can also be perceived through the nose and throat when inhaled. Example, "the perception of pepper in food through the nose tells how peppered that food is and the pepper, when inhaled can get to the throat causing a person to choke.

4.1.5 Verbs of Smelling

The perceptual verb smell comes in two forms. Good and bad.

1) Good smell (õrùn dárà)

2) Bad smell (õrun búbùrù)

When something is perceived as good, it comes with a pleasant, sweet and smiling face. You can already even taste the soup from its nice smell unlike the bad and unpleasant smell (õrùn búbùrù) which is unpleasant to the nose. The verbs of smelling portrayed in examples 9(a)-(j) below shows the intact morphological representation of verbs of smelling.

9a	Õrùn	Smell.
b	Lófindà	Perfume.
c	Oõrùn áládùn	Fragrance.
d	Wòyè/ gbò õrùn	Perceive.
e	Õrùn búrùkù	Odor/odour.
f	Sáàrà	Snuff.
g	Èrò	Aura.
h	Rúnrùn	Pong.
i	Fáwólè	Inhale.

i	Lódi	Essence.
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Below, are the examples 10(a)-(j). These examples depict the contextual investigation of the verbs of smelling.

10(a) Òrùn (Smell)

To perceive or detect or scent.

A ló imù fùn Òrùn.

We use nose for smelling.

We use our nose for smelling.

(b) Lófíndà (Perfume)

A mixture of fragrance, aroma compounds for an agreeable scent.

Mo nifè Lófíndà ré.

I love perfume your.

I love your perfume.

(c) Oòrù Áládùn (Fragrance)

A sweet or delicate smell.

Òdòdó nàà ni oòrùn Áládùn élewà kàn.

Flower the has fragrance lovely a.

The flower has a lovely fragrance.

(d) Wòyè/gbó òrùn (Perceive)

To become aware through the sense.

Sé ò wòyè éyikèyi?

Did you perceive anything?

Did you perceive anything?

(e) Òrùn búrukú (Odor/odour)

A distinctive smell especially an unpleasant one.

Mo kòrirà oòrùn búrukú ilè igbè.

I hate odour toilet.

I hate toilet odour.

(f) Sààrá (Snuff)

Sniff or smell inquiringly.

o fà tábà sààrá.

He tobacco snuffed.

He snuffed tobacco.

(g) Èrò (Aura)

A sensation that is pleasing to the nose.

Igi nàà ni èrò ti ohún ijinlè.

Wood the has an aura of mystery.

The wood has an aura of mystery.

(h) Rùnrùn (Pong)

An unpleasant smell.

Kini rùnrùn búrukù yèn.

What a pong horrible.

What a horrible pong.

(i) Fàwólé (Inhale)

To draw deep into the lungs by breathing.

A fá érùkù wólé.

We inhaled dust.

We inhaled dust.

(j) Lódi (Essence)

Odour, perfume.

Diè si lódi kàn fánilà.

Few drops of essence a vanilla.

Few drops of vanilla essence.

Smell matters a whole lot. When there is a bad smell, your facial expression and even your mood changes. It turns sour, bad. But with a good smell, the atmosphere is alive and there is a smile or show of content on people's faces.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

5.0 Introduction

This is the final chapter of this work where I will be drawing the curtain. This chapter entails the summary of the whole work. It is a final conclusion which is based on the descriptions and a profound analysis from the first chapter to the fourth chapter. This chapter also entails the objective of this study. The research questions are answered and analyzed here.

From the data presentation and analysis in the previous chapters, we have been able to broaden the five main perceptual verbs (SEE, HEAR, TOUCH, TASTE, SMELL.) This work has helped to increase our vocabulary, there by giving us many other words for these main perceptual verbs.

5.1 Summary

This work analysis the verbs in their perceptive states. verbs are very important aspects in Yoruba language. Without verbs, the language is

incomplete. Every Yoruba sentence must have at least a verb description. This research work is analyzed in four chapters.

Chapter one covers the introduction of the work. The unveiling of the work, topic, the whole idea of the research work, the reasons, motivation for the work. The chapter also entails definitions of literary terms involved in the work, the research method, research questions, theoretical framework e.t.c.

Chapter two is about the literature review of the work. Here, the conceptual processes of the work is attested. The previous studies carried out by other scholars on verbs are added to this chapter. This chapter also differentiates the previous studies from the current study.

Chapter three introduces the data used in this research work. The data is properly arranged and inscribed in their different classes in this chapter.

Chapter four finally analysis the data as listed in chapter three. The data analisation describes each data and also gives adequate examples for each of the data listed.

5.2 Findings

The below entails the findings of this work.

1. Verbs of perception in Yoruba language are classified in five different ways. They include;

1. Verbs of seeing.
2. Verbs of hearing.
3. Verbs of touching.
4. Verbs of tasting.
5. Verbs of smelling.

These different classifications are structured in chapter three of the data presentation.

2. Yoruba language speakers conceptualize verbs as only one type of sensing which entails mostly "hearing" or "smelling". Whereas, perceptual verbs is more than what they see it as. It involves all the types of sense organ. When outlining or describing perception, you channel it to all of the sense organs.

3. Perceptual verbs are constituted to the five sense organs. These five sense organs include;

- i. The eye.
- ii. The ear.
- iii. The skin.
- iv. The tongue.
- v. The nose.

These sense organs must be connected to perception else perception will be left with nothing.

4. Perceptual verbs is full of ambiguity because each of the verbs of perception have different words with various meaning pertaining to perception. Each perceptual verb is very ambiguous as shown in the data analysis of these work. Example; See (look, notice, watch, observe, view, goggle, examine, etc.)

5.3 Conclusion

This research work has properly defined perception. With the proper definition and analization, expansion of perception, people will now understand the full meaning and concept of perception.

This work will also help literary Yoruba perceptual verbs writers and scholars as well as teachers to build their use of perceptual verbs from the unfamiliar stock. This will go a long way in educating Nigerians especially the Yorubas and even other language speakers interested in the acquisition of Yoruba language. It will help on the existence and appropriate usages of various perceptions. Yoruba language speakers will now understand the semantic knowledge of the verbs of perception as it involves the meaning of verbs in relation to their co-occurring nominal element.

The observed cross-linguistic variation in the meanings of both vision verbs and general perception verbs shows that speakers of different languages may think about perception in different ways. The linguistic encoding of perception in Yoruba language reveals a previously described

pattern of the grammar and vocabulary of perception across languages and provides new starting points for further comparative research in this domain. This research work has contributed to the ongoing debate about universals and variability in conceptualization of sensory perception. Whereas, most previous literature in this domain has taken either a comparative linguistic or an anthropological perspective, the present study has focused on the detailed grammatical and semantic analysis of a single language. This has turned out to be a fruitful approach to provide new insights in this domain.

The linguistic encoding of perception reveals previously described pattern of the encoding and conceptualization of the senses. This work enriches our knowledge of the Yoruba grammar and its vocabulary of perception.

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