Title: Error Analysis of L2 Speech: Focus on Morphological Complexity

Abstract:
Filipino, a Tagalog-based language, is said to be easier compared to other languages. The pronunciation pattern is very consistent and has no silent sounds. Many Filipino vocabulary words are derived from Malay, Sanskrit, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, and English. Thus, Filipino language is easy to understand, remember, and speak. However, many L2 learners find Filipino a difficult language to learn, and this may be due to the complexity of Filipino grammar.

This paper investigates the knowledge and understanding of L2 learners on Filipino grammar based on their oral production. Participants in this study consist of thirty students in the Intermediate Filipino. Samples of students' oral presentations on voice thread were collected, transcribed, and analyzed using the error analysis as a method to determine the most frequent errors that L2 students make. Results show that most students made numerous errors on the correct use of verbs in terms of its aspect, focus, and conjugation. Some students also caused errors in the use of nouns markers and their locations. Students' assessments and interviews reveal that lack of grammatical knowledge and fewer drills, both written and oral, are the main reasons for these errors. Incorrect transfer/translation from English to Filipino, inadequate materials for Filipino grammar, and students' lack of interest also add to the students' lack of proficiency in Filipino grammar. The findings of this study provide language teachers some valuable insights on what aspect of language teaching should be enhanced and how to address the needs of L2 learners to enable them to acquire greater language proficiency.