

ABSTRACT

French Creole Interference in The Written English of St. Lucian Secondary School Students.

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St. Lucia is essentially a bilingual territory where the languages French Creole and English Language co-exist. These two languages have marked influences on each other.

A very important concern is the extent to which French Creole influences English Language competence, thereby interfering with the acquisition and production of a widely comprehensible and acceptable variety of English.

This study conceived out of an early interest in children's writing, examines the interference of St. Lucian French Creole in the written English of fifth form students at a secondary school in Castries.

The thesis consists of six sections. These deal respectively with the impact of French colonization; the language situation in St. Lucia; some theories of language acquisition and learning; the data source; the analysis of the data.

The final section provides a summary of the areas of interference and a concluding statement on the implications of the findings for English Language teaching in St. Lucia.