

ABSTRACT

An Exploration of the Phenomenon of Transfer in the Narrative Work of Students
in Barrackpore

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This thesis presents the findings of an investigation into areas of transfer from the Creole into Standard English, in the students' writing. Its objectives include identifying specific error types and their possible sources and recommending strategies which can assist students to overcome these errors.

The target group was selected by stratified sampling and the data comprised written compositions from students at various levels in two secondary schools in Barrackpore.

The results show evidence of both positive and negative transfer with a relatively wide range of error types of varying levels of complexity. A number of recommendations have been made for teachers to assist students whose writing in Standard English shows interference from the Creole language. The findings reflect the need for a greater understanding of Trinidad English Creole among teachers and for heightened awareness of the interplay between the two language systems among teachers and students, as well as educational planners.

Keywords: Romeo Calvin Gunness; Interlingual and intralingual errors; Rule restrictions; Error evaluation; Communication strategies.