

ADOPTION OF LOAN WORDS IN ISINDEBELE

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ADOPTION OF LOANWORDS IN
ISINDEBELE

by

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Language contact and language mixing is one of the unavoidable situations that South African indigenous languages find themselves involved in on a daily basis. A number of studies on language contact and language borrowing as the result of contact as well as technological development have been conducted in a number of African languages. Scholars such as Koopman (1996) and Nkabinde (1958) in isiZulu, Jokweni (1992) in isiXhosa, Batibo (1994) in Setswana, and others have investigated and confirmed that the African languages have acquired much of their vocabularies through borrowing from Afrikaans and English. IsiNdebele is one of the South African indigenous languages that has been in close contact with Afrikaans and English speaking communities for many years and a number of its vocabulary demonstrate to have been drawn from these non-African indigenous languages, particularly Afrikaans.

However, scholars, sometimes, use the linguistic terms ‘borrowing’ ‘loaning’ and ‘adoption’ interchangeably in studies that focus on languages in contact or language mix. This is because of the fact that these terms are very close to one another if not, in essence, referring to one and the same linguistic behaviour. In defining ‘borrowing’, for instance, Gleason (1956:397) says it is;

“The copying of a linguistic item from speakers of another speech form.”

While Bloemfield (1950:444) confirms by saying ‘borrowing’ is;

“The adoption of features which differ from those of the main tradition”

Some linguists such as Weinreich (1968:1), for instance, further refer to ‘borrowing’ ‘loaning’ and ‘adoption’ as the ‘linguistic interference’. Thomason and Kaufman in Mathumba (1993:176, 177) also define adoption as;

“The incorporation of foreign features into a group native language by

speakers of that language.”

The definition of these terms mean one and the same linguistic feature and, as a result, in this study they will be interchangeably used to refer to all words and phonemes that have been introduced to isiNdebele vocabulary from Afrikaans and English.

1.2. Brief Historical Background and the Distribution of the amaNdebele in South Africa.

The split of the (former Transvaal) amaNdebele into two major groups (i.e. Southern and Northern Ndebele) at their first prominent settlement area north of Pretoria, known as KwaMnyamana, led them into contact with non-Nguni groups such as the Batswana and Bapedi or Northern Sotho (Fourie 1921; Van Warmelo 1930; Van Vuuren 1983 and others). The Southern Ndebele group consists of the Nzunza and Manala followers while the Northern Ndebele group consists of the Gegana group that went further north and settled themselves around Potgietersrust (now called Mokopane), Zebediela, Mashashana and other peripheral areas of Polokwane (former Pietersburg). For many years, the Nzunza and Manala group maintained their culture and tradition as amaNdebele though they were always separated and recognized their chieftainship as independent from one another. The Manala group was in close contact with the Batswana speaking communities around Hammanskraal (former Bophuthatshwana) while the Nzunza group went eastwards and settled in areas such as KwaMaza and KwaSimkhulu until they eventually sought refuge, in fear of the ZAR wars, at the Mapoch caves in Mpumalanga (Van Vuuren 1983; Skhosana 1996; Wilkes 2001).

The first contact the Nzunza people had with Afrikaans speaking communities came after they were defeated by the ZAR commander Piet Joubert in 1883 at Roosenekal, under their chief Nyabela. It was after this defeat that the Afrikaners subjugated the Nzunza people who became indentured for many years working as domestic and farm workers around the entire Highveld Region in Mpumalanga (Van Vuuren 1998:253). The close contact and daily interactions between Afrikaans speaking communities and the Nzunza group resulted in a large vocabulary being adopted from Afrikaans, while Setswana increased the Manala vocabulary.

The two sub-groups, the Manala and Nzunza, reunited and strove for the political recognition and the establishment of their own homeland as amaNdebele in the late 1970s (Cobbett et. al.1988:115). After the success of their political struggle and the establishment of the homeland of amaNdebele as an autonomous ethnic group in 1979 the then KwaNdebele government became bound to fulfil the linguistic obligation that required them to have their own standardized and formal language (Skhosana. op.cit:114). This would be an official language of the homeland and used as a language of teaching and learning in all KwaNdebele schools. The first publication of the orthography and spelling rules of this language took place in 1982, before the inception of isiNdebele as a language of learning and teaching in 1985 (Skhosana. 2003:114). At present, isiNdebele is taught in Mpumalanga, Gauteng and Limpopo schools and has speakers in all provinces. According to Statistics, South Africa (2004), the amaNdebele are distributed as follows in the nine provinces of the Republic of South Africa:

Province	Total
Gauteng	171 018
Limpopo	78 617
Mpumalanga	377 688
North West	48 997
KwaZulu- Natal	18 570
Eastern Cape	4 134
Western Cape	2 216
Northern Cape	581
Free State	10 000
Grand Total	711 821

The above statistics exclude Northern Ndebele speaking people. According to Statistics, South Africa , Northern Ndebele speakers are not distinguished from their southern counterparts and are most probably counted under the Northern Sotho speaking communities (Wilkes 2001:311). Their language (known as Sumayela or siNdebele by some scholars) is not yet recognized as either a provincial or a national

language (Wilkes op.cit:311). For these reasons, Northern Ndebele is not focused on in this study.

Although isiNdebele is the smallest and the youngest language amongst the nine indigenous official African languages, a number of school books such as novels, dramas, short stories, folklore, poetry, grammar books and two bilingual scholars' dictionaries have been published. This includes the *Terminology Book* No.1 that was published in 2000 for the first time.

1.3 Problem Identification

Skhosana (1998:118) and Mashiyane (2002:58) maintain that amaNdebele (i.e. Southern Ndebele-speaking people) borrowed most of their lexical stock from Afrikaans, as compared to English. The latest Revised isiNdebele Orthographical and Spelling Rules (2005) do not provide sufficient or entirely accurate rules and information with regard to the spelling of Afrikaans and English loaned words. Most isiNdebele publications in circulation demonstrate flaws that emanate from language practitioners and authors who find themselves.

- (a) faced with the inconsistencies in the spelling of Afrikaans and English adoptive words
- (b) lacking a good and reliable source that could guide isiNdebele language planners (i.e. the isiNdebele National Language Body and isiHlathululi-mezwi sesiNdebele) to develop orthographical and spelling rules that can address all isiNdebele needs in this current multilingual context
- (c) using Afrikaans or English loaned words or vocabulary instead of the native register.

Since isiNdebele was recognized as a language of teaching and learning in 1985, no scientific investigation has ever been conducted with regard to its borrowing strategies from other languages, particularly Afrikaans and English, despite the fact that there is a high frequency of Afrikaans vocabulary usage amongst young and elderly people in day-to-day discourse. Most importantly, the fact that more official documents from the national and various provincial and local governments are released in English and translated into isiNdebele before reaching the language

speakers implies that clear and accurate orthographical and spelling rules should be in place to address foreign words that occur in any receiving language. Consequently, there is a need to investigate how isiNdebele adopts and adapts words from Afrikaans and English.

1.4 The aim of the study

The aim of this study is three fold:

- (a) to investigate and describe the phonologization of Afrikaans and English phonemes into the isiNdebele phonological system.
- (b) to investigate the semantic and morphological aspects of Afrikaans and English words adopted into isiNdebele.
- (c) to contribute and give solutions to the current isiNdebele Spelling and Orthographical Rules with regard to the writing particularly, of Afrikaans and English loaned words.

Owing to the fact that translation is gaining momentum as a career choice and a new subject that is offered at some of the South African institutions, it is envisaged that the study will indeed contribute to the isiNdebele language speakers and language practitioners who follow translation and lexicography as their career.

1.5 Literature review

The review of the relevant literature has shown that borrowing in many Bantu languages has been, to some extent, explored by linguists. Scholars such as Nkabinde(1968) and Koopman (1996) in isiZulu, Jokweni (1992) in Xhosa, Batibo (1994) in Setswana and Swahili, Louwrens (1995) and Mojela (1991) in Northern Sotho, and Emslie (1978) and Kruger (1966) in Southern Sotho have investigated the borrowing strategies that these Bantu languages employ in incorporating words from Afrikaans and English. In most of these studies, the focus has mainly been on the phonological and morphological strategies that these languages apply in the nativization of loan words, particularly nouns and verbs. However, most linguists do not dispute the fact that borrowing is never the same in borrowing languages. Adoption and adjustment of a loan word in the phonological and morphological system of the borrowing language are the key principles that every borrowing

language applies, meaning that a borrowed item has to be pronounceable in that receiving language. For instance, traditionally, isiZulu does not have a phoneme /r/ in its phonological system and consequently in loan words from Afrikaans and English with a phoneme /r/, the thriller sound /r/ is replaced with an //, e.g. **ilokwe** for the Afrikaans word *rok* (dress) and **ilayisi** for English word ‘rice’.

In isiNdebele, Mashiyane (2002:57-64) touches a little bit on borrowings from Afrikaans and English, whereas Skhosana (1998:116-118) and Jiyane (1994:11), classify words borrowed from Afrikaans and English in passing into various word categories. The three scholars do not focus on the phonological and morphological strategies that isiNdebele employs in the nativization of foreign words. Skhosana (1998:116-117) identifies five word categories borrowed from Afrikaans in isiNdebele (nouns, verbs, conjunctives, relatives and adverbs) and two from English (nouns and verbs). However, this study differs from Skhosana’s study in that phonological and morphological strategies used by isiNdebele in borrowing from Afrikaans and English are investigated and discussed in some detail.

1.6 Chapter layout

The study will investigate and describe how isiNdebele phonologically and morphologically adopts and “Ndebelizes” lexical items that come from Afrikaans and English. It will further endeavor to analyse and define possible rules that this language applies in the adoption of foreign words. Both written and spoken, or to put it differently, standardized and non-standard borrowed forms are of interest. The discussion in this study is divided into six chapters, as follows:

Chapter 1

This is an introductory chapter. The focus is the historical background of the Southern Ndebele people and their language.

Chapter 2

Chapter 2 deals with an overview of Afrikaans and English vowels and how they are adapted into isiNdebele. The vowel systems of isiNdebele, Afrikaans and English are set out in this chapter and the nativization of Afrikaans and English vowels, diphthongs and semi-vowels into isiNdebele is discussed.

Chapter 3

The adaptation of Afrikaans consonant phonemes is the focus in this chapter. The various Afrikaans consonant phonemes from words borrowed by isiNdebele are investigated and discussed.

Chapter 4

This chapter focuses on the adaptation of English consonant phonemes words borrowed into isiNdebele.

Chapter 5

The different word categories from Afrikaans and English found in isiNdebele are the focus in this chapter. The various word categories and different fields from which isiNdebele has borrowed from Afrikaans and English are discussed.

Chapter 6

This is the concluding chapter. The findings are summarized in this chapter. Recommendations that will assist and enhance current isiNdebele language practitioners regarding the spelling and orthographic rules for the loan words are also made.

CHAPTER 2

ADAPTATION OF AFRIKAANS AND ENGLISH VOWELS INTO ISINDEBELE

2.1. Introduction

Bantu languages commonly use various strategies to adapt foreign consonants and vowels to their own individual languages (Batibo 1996:34). Afrikaans and English are the primary foreign languages that most South African languages resort to when faced with the problem of closing the terminological gap that they experience in South Africa. Each new imported lexical item from Afrikaans or English into an African language is adopted and pronounced in accordance with phonological rules of the respective receiving African language. Each and every language is governed by its own phonological rules. Most Afrikaans and English sounds differ in pronunciation from isiNdebele and as a result are adapted differently into the various African languages in South Africa.

The description and discussion of the rendition of Afrikaans and English vowels into isiNdebele loanwords is discussed under the following sub-headings in the following paragraphs:

- (a) The description of the isiNdebele vowel system
- (b) The rendition of Afrikaans vowels in isiNdebele
- (c) The rendition of English vowels in isiNdebele.

2.2 The description of the isiNdebele and Afrikaans vowel system.

Like other Nguni languages, isiNdebele recognizes five vowel phonemes where two of these vowel phonemes have variant forms. The isiNdebele vowel phonemes can be described as follows:

2.2.1 IsiNdebele vowel phonemes

a [a] : Neutral vowel, e.g.:

- (1) sala [sala] 'remain'
halala [halala] 'congratulations'

e [e] : Closed mid-high front vowel, e.g.:

- (2) qedile [!edilɛ] 'having finished'
ikesi [ik'esi] 'paraffin lamp'

e [ɛ] : Open mid-low front vowel, e.g.:

- (3) lelo [lɛlɔ] 'that one'
lelesa [lɛlɛsa] 'be naughty'

i [i] : Closed high front vowel, e.g.:

- (4) lilizela [lilizɛla] 'applause'
Ibilibili [ibilibili] 'chili'

o [o] : Closed mid-high back vowel, e.g.:

- (5) ikosi [ik'osi] 'chief'
godu [g^oo_ou] 'again'

o [ɔ] : Open mid-low back vowel, e.g.:

- (6) bona [bɔna] 'see'
isono [isɔno] 'sin'

u [u] : Closed back high vowel, e.g.:

- (7) khulu [khulu] 'big'
umkhukhu [umkhukhu] 'shack'

In words where a lower vowel is followed by a high vowel, vowel raising occurs. This is when an open vowel changes and becomes a closed vowel. Compare examples 2 and 5 above.

The above isiNdebele vowel phonemes can be illustrated as follows in a vowel chart.

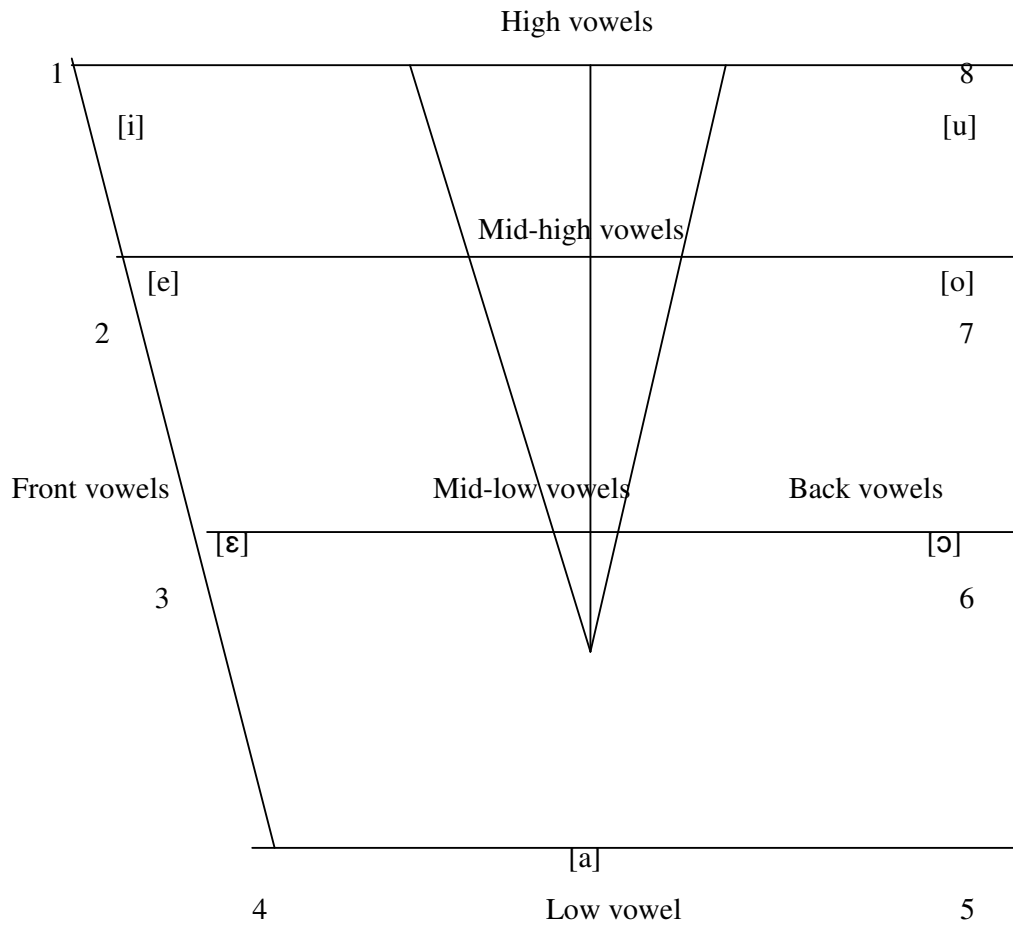


Figure 2.1: IsiNdebele Vowel Chart

2.2.2. Afrikaans vowel phonemes

Afrikaans has more vowel phonemes than isiNdebele. According to De Villiers (1987:1-2), Afrikaans has 17 plain vowels and 8 diphthongs. Compare the following examples in this regard:

[a] : short low vowel, e.g.:

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|-------|--------|
| (8) | pad | [pad] | ‘road’ |
| | kat | [kat] | ‘cat’ |

[a:] : long low vowel, e.g.:

- (9) vraag [vra:x] ‘question’

 straat [stra:t] ‘street’

[e:] : unrounded mid-high front vowel, e.g.:

- (10) vee [fe:] ‘live stock’
 breed ['bre:t] ‘broad’

[ɛ] : short mid-low front vowel, e.g.:

- (11) vet [vɛt] ‘fat’
 berg [bɛrx] ‘mountain’

[ɛ:] : long mid-low front vowel, e.g.:

- (12) sê [sɛ:] ‘say’
 pêrd [pɛ:rt] ‘horse’

[ə] : unrounded central vowel, e.g.:

- (13) niks ['nəks] ‘nothing’
 gesig [xə'səx] ‘face’

i[i] : short unrounded high front vowel, e.g.:

- (14) piet [pit] ‘Piet’
 lied [lid] ‘song’

[i:] : long unrounded high front vowel, e.g.:

- (15) mier ['mi:r] ‘ant’
 spieël ['spi:l] ‘mirror’

[o:] : long mid-high back vowel, e.g.:

- (16) **sool** [ˈso:l] ‘sole’
 oor [o:r] ‘ear’

[ɔ] : short mid-low back vowel, e.g.:

- (17) **os** [ɔs] ‘ox’
 kos [kɔs] ‘food’

[ɔ:] : long mid-low back vowel, e.g.:

- (18) **môre** [ˈmɔ:rə] ‘morning’
 bord [bɔ:rt] ‘plate’

[ø] : long mid- high front vowel, e.g.:

- (19) **beneuk** [bɛnøk] ‘damage’
 neus [ˈnøʃs] ‘nose’

[œ] : rounded central vowel, e.g.:

- (20) **stuk** [stœk] ‘piece’
 rus [rœs] ‘rest’

[u] : long high back vowel, e.g.:

- (21) **vloer** [ˈflu:r] ‘floor’
 broer [ˈbru:r] ‘brother’

[u:] : short high back vowel, e.g.:

- (22) **koel** [ku] ‘bullet’
 loer [lu] ‘watch’

[y] : short high rounded front vowel, e.g.:

- (23) **minuut** [mɛˈnyt] ‘minute’
 nuus [ˈnys] ‘news’

[y:] : long high rounded front vowel, e.g.:

(24) uur	[y:r]	‘hour’
duur	[‘dy:r]	‘expensive’

2.3 The rendition of Afrikaans vowel phonemes and diphthongs in isiNdebele

Afrikaans has numerous vowel phonemes that do not entirely correspond with isiNdebele vowel phonemes. When a new lexical item is adopted from Afrikaans into isiNdebele with vowel phonemes that do not occur in isiNdebele, these foreign vowels are usually adapted to the isiNdebele vowels that are closest to them. A large number of loan lexical items from Afrikaans have successfully made inroads into isiNdebele lexical stock through adaptation of these foreign vowel and consonant phonemes in order to conform to the isiNdebele phonological system. However, it should be mentioned that some of those words were first incorporated into Afrikaans from the English. In the following paragraphs the adaptation and adoption of Afrikaans vowel phonemes into isiNdebele are investigated and discussed.

2.3.1 The Afrikaans vowel phonemes [a] and [a:].

The two Afrikaans vowel phonemes [a] and [a:] are both rendered as a single neutral vowel phoneme /a/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans	:		IsiNdebele	
(25a) [a] :	band [bant]	>	ibhande [ibandɛ]	belt’	
	lamp [lamp]	>	ilampa [ilamp’a]	‘light’	
	kamp [kamp]	>	ikampa [ik’amp’a]	‘camp’	
	sand [sant]	>	isanda [isanda]	‘sand’	
(25b) [a:] :	plaas [‘pla:s]	>	iplasi [ipl’asi]	‘farm’	
	naald [na:lt]	>	inalidi [inalid _i]	‘needle’	
	blaar [‘bla:r]	>	ibhlari [ib _l lari]	‘leaf’	
	draad [dra:t]	>	idrada [idrada]	‘wire’	

2.3.2 The Afrikaans vowel phoneme [e] and its variants

According to de Villiers (1987), the Afrikaans vowel phoneme /e/ has numerous variant phonemes such as, [ɛ], [ɛ:], [e:] and [ə]. The Afrikaans vowel phonemes /ɛ/, /ɛ:/ and [ə] are rendered as /ɛ/ while the phoneme [e:] is rendered as /i/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (26a)-(26d) in this regard:

	Afrikaans	:	isiNdebele	
(26a) [ɛ] :	hek [ˈhɛk]	>	ihege [ihɛg̃ɛ]	‘gate’
(26b) [ɛ:] :	kerk [ˈkɛ:rk]	>	ikerege [ik’ɛrɛg̃ɛ]	‘church’
	perd [pɛ:rt]	>	ipera [ip’ɛra]	‘horse’
(26c) [ə] :	skip [skəp]	>	isikepe [isik’ɛp’ɛ]	‘boat’
	skil [skəl]	>	-kela [kɛla]	‘peel’
	vis [fəs]	>	ifesi [ifesi]	‘fish’

However, in a few Afrikaans words with the vowel phoneme [ə], e.g. **ivikili** (< *winkel* / ‘shop’) and **isikulpata** (< *skilpad* / ‘tortoise’), this vowel phoneme also occurs as /i/ and /u/ respectively in isiNdebele. As already stated, the Afrikaans unrounded mid-high front vowel [e:] occurs as [i] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans	:	isiNdebele	
(26d) [e:] :	seep [se:p]	>	isibha [isib̥a]	‘soap’
	steen [ste:n]	>	isitina [isit’ina]	‘brick’
	tee [te:]	>	itiye [it’ije]	‘tea’
	deeg [de:x]	>	idiyerhi [idijexi]	‘dough’

It is, notable that in a few Afrikaans loanwords with the vowel phoneme [e:], the isiNdebele **word is an exception** to the rule as shown in examples (26d) above which does not apply i.e. this Afrikaans vowel [e:] sometimes occurs as [ɛ] in isiNdebele.

Compare the following examples in (26e) in this regard:

(26e)	geel ['xe:l]	>	-tjheli [tʃheli]	'yellow'
	teelepel [te:lɛpɛl]	>	utelebhula [ut'ɛlɛbula]	'teaspoon'

2.3.3 The Afrikaans vowel phonemes /o/[o:], [ɔ] and /oo/[ɔ:]

The Afrikaans vowel phonemes [o:] and its variant phoneme [ɔ] are adopted and rendered as /o/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans	:	IsiNdebele	
(27a) [o:]	spook ['spo:k]	>	isipoko [isip'ɔkɔ]	'ghost'
	skool ['sko:l]	>	isikolo [isik'ɔlɔ]	'school'
(27b) [ɔ:]	bord [bɔ:rt]	>	ibhorodo [ibɔrɔɔɔ]	'plate'
	dorp [dɔ:rp]	>	idorobha [idɔrɔɔbha]	'town'

However, in a very limited number of Afrikaans loaned words the double vowel /oo/ [o:] is channelled and rendered as a back high vowel /u/. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans	:	IsiNdebele	
(28) /oo/[o:]	brood [bro:t]	>	uburotho [uburɔthɔ]	'bread'
	knoop ['kno:p]	>	ikunubhe [ik'unubɛ]	'button'

2.3.4 The Afrikaans vowel phoneme/u/[œ]

The Afrikaans vowel phoneme [œ] is rendered as /o/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Afrikaans	:	IsiNdebele	
(29) [œ] :			
brug ['brœx]	>	ibhlorho [ib̥lɔxɔ]	'bridge'
skuld [skœlt]	>	isikolodo [isik'ɔlɔɔ ɔ]	'debt'
stuk [stœk]	>	isitoki [isit'ok'i]	'piece'

Note that an isiNdebele loanword such as **umkeseeni**, 'pillow case' (< *kussing*), is an example of the exceptionally few words that are irregular or exceptions to this rule.

2.3.5 The Afrikaans vowel phonemes /oe/[u] and /oe/ [u:]

In isiNdebele the Afrikaans vowel phonemes [u] and its variant [u:] are rendered as /u/. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Afrikaans	:	IsiNdebele	
(30a) /oe/[u] :			
stoel [stul]	>	isitulo [isit'uɔ]	'chair'
ploeg [pluç]	>	iplurhu [ipl'uxu]	'plough'
broek [bruk]	>	ibhruhu [ib̥ ru̥gu]	'trouser'
koek [ku:k]	>	ikuke [ik'uk'ɛ]	'cake'
(30b) /oe/ [u:] :			
voer [vu:r]	>	ifuru [ifuru]	'forage'
soet [su:t]	>	-sudu [sudu]	'sweet'
doek [du:k]	>	idugu [idu̥gu]	'cloth' (head)

2.3.6 Afrikaans vowel phonemes /uu/[y] and /uu/[y:]

The Afrikaans vowel phoneme /uu/[y] and its variant /uu/[y:] are both rendered as vowel phoneme /i/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Afrikaans	:	IsiNdebele	
(31) uu[y:] :			
uur ['y:r]	>	i-iri [i-iri]	'hour'

muur ['my:r]	>	umiri [umiri]	‘wall’
suur ['sy:r]	>	siri [siri]	‘sour’
skuur ['sky:r]	>	-kira [k'ira]	‘rub’
uu[y] : minuut [mən'y:t]	>	iminidi [iminiɖi]	‘minute’

It is, however, notable that an example such as **-dura** (< Afr: **duur** ['dy:r]) ‘expensive’ is an example of a very limited number of Afrikaans loaned items where the Afrikaans vowel /uu/ [y:] occurs as a back vowel /u/ in isiNdebele.

2.3.7 The Afrikaans diphthong phonemes /ui/[øi] and /ei/[œy]

The Afrikaans diphthong phonemes [œy] and [øi] are commonly rendered as /eyi/ [eji] in isiNdebele, i.e. **u** of /ui/ and **e** of /ei/ become /e/ and a semivowel /y/ inserted between /e/ and /i/ of /ui/ and /ei/. Compare the following examples in (32a) and (32b) below:

Afrikaans	:	isiNdebele	
(32a) /ui/[œy] druwe ['drœyve]	>	/eyi/ amadreyibe [amad rejibe]	‘grapes’
snuif [snœyf]	>	isineyifu [isinejifu]	‘snuff’
spuit [spœyt]	>	isipeyidi [isip'ejidi]	‘syringe’
/ei/[øi] : skei [skøI]	>	isikeyi (sejogi) [isik'ejji]	‘separate’
vlei [fløi]	>	ifleyi [ifleji]	‘valley’
reisies [røisies]	>	ireyisisi [irejisisi]	‘race’

In a limited number of Afrikaans lexical items, the diphthong [œy] occurs as /we/ [wɛ]. Compare the following examples in (32b) in this regard:

(32b) /ui/[œy] : skuins ['skœyns]	>	-sikwensi [sikwensi]	‘sloping, slanting’
suinig [sœynix]	>	swenarha [swɛnaxa]	‘stingy’
kuier [kœyer]	>	kweriya [kwerija]	‘visit’

However, Afrikaans loanwords such as **iswigiri** [iswĩgiri] (< *suiker* ‘sugar’) and **itoni** [it’oni](< *tuin* ‘garden’) are a few exceptional examples of words that do not conform to the above rules.

2.3.8 The Afrikaans diphthong /aai/[a:i]

In the case of the Afrikaans diphthong /aai/[a:i], the semi-vowel /y/ is rendered as /ayi/ [aji] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Afrikaans	:	isiNdebele	
(33)/aai/[a:i] draai [dra:i]	>	idrayi [idraji]	‘corner’
kwaai [’kva:i]	>	-kwayi [kwaji]	‘vicious’
laai [’la:i]	>	ilayi [ilaji]	‘drawer’

In the verbal stems [a:i] the terminative vowel /i/ is replaced by a neutral vowel phoneme /a/. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(34) /aai/[a:i] :draai [dra:i]	>	-draya [d̥ raja]	‘turn’
swaai [sva:i]	>	-swaya [swaja]	‘swing’
braai [’bra:i]	>	-bhraya [b̥ raja]	‘roast, toast’
waai [’va:i]	>	-vaya [vaja]	‘blow’

2.3.9 The Afrikaans diphthongs [əu] and [o:i]

The Afrikaans diphthongs [əu] and [oi] insert a semi-vowel /w/ in between and the second /o/ of /ooi/[o:i] become two syllables/owu/ /, /awu/ and /oyi/. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Afrikaans	:	IsiNdebele	
(35a) /ou/[əu] :flou [’fləu]	>	-flowu [flowu]	‘faint, weak’

goud [xəut]	>	irhawuda [ixawud a]	‘gold’
fout [fəut]	>	ifowudu [ifowud u]	‘mistake’

(35b) /ooi/[o:i] : strooi (meisie) ['stroij]	>	isitroyi [isitrojji]	‘bridesmaid’
nooi ['no:i]	>	unoyi [unoji]	‘young lady’
plooi ['plo:]	>	iployi [ipl'oji]	‘pleat (skirt)’

2.4 The English vowel phonemes

Not only Afrikaans lexical items have made inroads into isiNdebele vocabulary, but also English. English loanwords mainly entered isiNdebele lexicon as a result of various special reasons rather than interaction on a daily basis, as is the case with Afrikaans. Technical, educational and scientific terms are the most common terms that isiNdebele has derived from English. Kreidler (1997:27) states

“It is dangerous to equate the cardinal vowels with vowels in English words because speakers of English differ considerably in the vowels they pronounce ...”

In the following paragraphs the (South African) English vowel system and the rendition of these vowels in words adopted from (South African) English into isiNdebele are discussed.

The following are the simple English vowel symbols in received pronunciation (Titlestad 2007:133).

2.4.1 Pure vowels

/ea/[i:] : high, front, tense (spread) vowel, e.g.:

(36)	beat	[bi:t]
	bead	[bi:d]

/i/[I] : high, front, lax (unrounded) vowel, e.g.:

(37)	chick	[tʃɪk]
	fish	[fɪʃ]

/a/[æ] : low, front (unrounded) vowel, e.g.:

- (38) had [hæd]
bat [bæt]

/a/[ɑ] : low, back (unrounded) vowel, e.g.:

- (39) father ['fɑ:ðə]
calm [kɑ:m]

/o/[ɒ] : low, back (slightly rounded) vowel, e.g.:

- (40) not [nɒt]
dot [dɒt]

/a/[ɔ] : lower-mid, back (rounded) vowel, e.g.:

- (41) call [kɔ:l]
raw [rɔ:w]

/u/[ʊ] : high, back, lax (unrounded or slightly rounded) vowel, e.g.:

- (42) put [pʊt]
pull [pʊl]

/oo/[u:] : long high, back, lax (rounded) vowel, e.g.:

- (43) woo [wu:]
fool [fu:l]

/u/[ʌ] : lower-mid, back (or central) (unrounded) vowel, e.g.:

- (44) hut [hʌt]
buds [bʌdz]

/i/[ɜ:] : mid-central vowel, e.g.:

- (45) bird [bɜ:d]

girl [gɜ:l]

/a/[ə] : mid-central vowel, e.g.:

(46) array [ə'reɪ]

allay [əle]

1.3.1 Diphthongs

The following are English diphthongs as described by Titlestad (2007:133).

1.3.1.0 Centring diphthongs

/ee/[ɪə] : The centring diphthong ending in /ə/, e.g.:

(47) beer [bɪə]

deer [dɪə]

/ai/[eə] : The centring diphthong ending in [ə], e.g.:

(48) fair [feə]

pair [peə]

/oo/[ʊə] : The centring diphthong ending in [ə], e.g.:

(49) poor [pʊə]

poorly [pʊəli]

2.4.2.2 Diphthongal vowel glide

/ay/[eɪ] : The closing diphthong [eɪ] ending in a glide towards a closer vowel,
e.g.:

(50) play [pleɪ]

pay [peɪ]

/y/[aɪ] : The closing diphthong [aɪ] ending in a glide towards a closer vowel,
e.g.:

(51) my [maɪ]

by [baɪ]

/oy/[ɔɪ] : The closing diphthong [ɔɪ] ending in a glide towards a closer vowel,

e.g.:

(52) boy [bɔɪ]

toy [tɔɪ]

/ow/[əʊ] : Two diphthongs glide towards [əʊ], e.g.:

(53) go [gəʊ]

show [ʃəʊ]

/ow/[aʊ] : Two diphthongs glide towards [aʊ], e.g.:

(54) bow [baʊ]

cow [kaʊ]

/o/[ɔə] : often not diphthongized, e.g.:

more [mɔər]

2.5 The rendition of English vowel phonemes and diphthongs in isiNdebele

2.5.1 The English vowel phoneme /a/[ɑ:]

The English vowel /a/[ɑ:] is rendered as the neutral vowel /a/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(55)	English /a/ [ɑ]	:	IsiNdebele /a/ [a]
	carpet [kɑ:pɪt]	>	ikhaphethe [ikhaphɛthɛ]
	half [hɑ:f]	>	uhafu [ihafu]
	scarf [skɑ:f]	>	isikhafu [isikhafu]

2.5.2. The English vowel phoneme [æ]

The English vowel /a/ [æ] is rendered as /a/[a] and /e/[e] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English	:	IsiNdebele
(56a)	[æ] : isaladi [sæled]	>	isaladi [isaladi]
	rash [ræsh]	>	iratjhi [iratʃhi]
	Rastafarian	>	iRasta [irast'a]
(56b)	badge [bædʒ]	>	ibheji [ib̩ edʒi]
	jam [dʒæm]	>	ijemu [idʒemu]
	bag [bæg]	>	ibhege [ib̩ ɛg̩ɛ]

2.5.3 The English vowel phoneme /e/[ə] and diphthong /ei/[əI]

The lower mid, front, lax (unrounded) vowel /e/[ə] and the diphthong /ei/[əI] is rendered as the mid-low front vowel /e/[ɛ] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples below:

	English /e/[ə]	:	IsiNdebele/e/[ɛ]
(57)	pension [penʃn]	>	ipentjhini [ipɛntʃhini]
	set [set]	>	isede [isɛdɛ]
	secondary [ˈsekənd(ə)ri]	>	isekhondari [isɛkhond̩ ari]
	bed [bed]	>	umbhede [umb̩ ɛd̩ ɛ]

2.5.4 The English vowel phoneme /i/[I]

In English the single vowel /i/[I] is rendered as the high front vowel /i/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(58)	English /i/[I]	:	IsiNdebele /i/[i]
	pick [pɪ k]	>	ipiki [ip'iki]
	kitchen [kɪ tʃən]	>	ikhwitjhi [ikhwitʃhi]
	minute [mɪnɪt]	>	iminidi [iminid̩i]

2.5.5 The English vowel phoneme /ea/[i:]

In English vowel /ea/[i:] is rendered as the high front vowel /i/ in isiNdebele. Compare examples in this regard:

	English/ea/[i:]	:	IsiNdebele/i/[i]	
(59)	leave [li:ve]	>	ilifu	[ilifu]
	league [li:g]	>	iligi	[iligi]
	grease [gri:se]	>	igrisi	[igrisi]
	tea [ti:]	>	itiye	[it'ijɛ]

In a few English words it occurs as /e/ [ɛ] in isiNdebele. Compare the following example in this regard:

(60)	ea [i:] :	heathen [hi:then]	>	umrhedeni	[umxɛɗ ɛni]
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2.5.6 The English vowel phoneme /o/[ɒ]

The English single vowel /o/[ɒ] is rendered as the mid- low vowel /o/[ɒ] in isiNdebele. Compare the examples below:

(61)	English/o/[ɒ]	:	IsiNdebele/o/[ɒ]/ [..]	
	cotton [kɒtn]	>	ikotini	[ik'ot'ini]
	costume [kɒstju:m]	>	ikhosjumu	[ikhosdʒumu]
	bottle ['bɒtl]	>	ibhodlelo	[ibɔʃɛlɔ]

2.5.7 The English vowel phoneme /oo/[u:]

The English vowel phoneme /oo/[u:] is rendered as the back vowel /u/[u] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples below:

	English /oo/[u:]	:	IsiNdebele/u/[u]	
(62) [u:] :	doom [du:m]	>	idumu	[id̥ umu]
	boot [bu:t]	>	ibhudi	[ib̥ uɗ̥ u]

2.5.8 The English diphthong /oy/[ɔɪ]

The diphthong /oy/[ɔɪ] is rendered as /oyi/ respectively in isiNdebele. Compare the examples below:

(63)	English /oy/[ɔɪ]	:	IsiNdebele/oyi/	
	boy [bɔɪ]	>	ibhoyi	[ibɔji]
	toy [tɔɪ]	>	ithoyi	[ithɔji]

2.5.9 The English diphthong /ea/[eə]

The English diphthong /ea/[eə] becomes /iye/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(64)	/ea/[eə]	:	/iye/	
	pear [peər]	>	ipiyere	[ip'ijɛɛ]
	theatre [theətre]	>	itiyetha	[it'ijɛtha]

2.5.10 The English diphthongs [aɪ] and [eɪ]

The English diphthong [aɪ] and [eɪ] become /ay/ in isiNdebele. Compare examples below:

(65a)	English/ie/ and /y/[aɪ]	:	IsiNdebele/ay/	
	pie [paɪ]	>	iphayi	[iphaji]
	tie [taɪ]	>	itayi	[it'aji]
	diet	>	idayede	[idajɛdɛ]

(65b)	English/a/ and /ei/[eɪ]	:	IsiNdebele/ey/	
	base [beɪs]	>	ibheyizi	[ib'ejizi]
	game [geɪm]	>	igeyimu	[ig'ejimu]
	veil [veɪl]	>	iveyili	[ivejili]

2.5.11 The English diphthong /oa/[əʊ]

The English diphthong /oa/[əʊ] becomes /oa/[əʊ] and /o/ in isiNdebele. Compare the examples below:

(66) [əʊ] :	English	:	IsiNdebele	
	toast [təʊst]	>	ithowusti	[ithowusti]
	phone [pəʊne]	>	ifowunu	[ifowunu]
	coke [cəʊke]	>	ikhowukhu	[ikhowukhu]

The above discussions on the adoption and adaptation of Afrikaans and English vowel phonemes into isiNdebele can be illustrated as follows in tabular form.

Table 2.2

A. Afrikaans vowel phoneme

(i) Afrikaans vowel phonemes that do not change in isiNdebele	
Afrikaans	IsiNdebele
a[a] ; aa[a:]	a [a]
e[e]	e [e]
o[o] ; ô[o:] ; oo[o]	o [o]
oe[u] ; oe[u:]	u [u]
(ii) Afrikaans vowel phonemes that undergo change in isiNdebele	
Afrikaans	IsiNdebele
i[ə]	e [e]
ee[e:] ; ee[ə]	i [i]
u[œ]	o [o]

B. English vowel phonemes

(i) English vowel phonemes that do not change in isiNdebele	
English	IsiNdebele
a[a]; a[a:]; a[æ]	a [a]
e[ə]	e [e]
i[i]	i [i]
o[œ]	o [o]
oo[u:] ; u[ʌ]	u [u]
(ii) English vowel phonemes that undergo change in isiNdebele	
English	English
i[ə] ; ea[i:]	i [i]; e [e]
ee[e:]	i [i]

C. Afrikaans Diphthongs

Afrikaans	IsiNdebele
ei[əi]	eyi [eji]
ui[œy]	eyi [eji]
ui[œy]	we [we]
ou[œu]	w [w]
oe[u]	u [u]
oe[u:i]	u [u]

D. English Diphthongs

English	IsiNdebele
ei[əi]	e [e]
oy[ɔɪ]	oyi [eji]
oa[əʊ]	owu [owu]
ea[eə]	iy [iy]
ai[ai]	ayi [aji]

ei[eɪ]

eyi [eji]

CHAPTER 3

ADAPTATION OF THE AFRIKAANS CONSONANT PHONEMES INTO ISINDEBELE

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter the phonological rendition of Afrikaans consonants into isiNdebele is investigated and discussed. Scholars such as Kruger (1966), Jokweni (1992), Koopman (1996), Van Huyssteen (2003) and others concur that one of the characteristics of adoption is the fact that an adopted word from another language is bound to conform to the phonological and morphological rules and structure of the receiving language. During the adoption process, some foreign phonemes are obliged to change and conform to the phoneme system of the receiving language. Particularly in African languages this change is mainly caused by the fact that foreign words also have consonants which the constraints of the African language phoneme segment inventories will not permit to occur.

The adaptation of Afrikaans consonant phonemes into isiNdebele is discussed according to the following sub-headings;

- (a) The isiNdebele consonant system
- (a) The phonological rendition of Afrikaans consonants in isiNdebele loan words.

3.2 The isiNdebele consonant system

The following is the isiNdebele consonant system as revised and approved by the isiNdebele National Language Body in 2006.

3.2.1 Explosives

•**p[p']**: Ejective bilabial explosive, e.g.:

- | | | | |
|-----|--------|-----------|---------------|
| (1) | ipuphu | [ip'uphu] | 'mealie meal' |
| | ipi | [ip'i] | 'war' |

● **ph[ph]: Aspirated bilabial explosive, e.g.:**

- (2) iphaphu [iphaphu] 'lung'
-phapha [phapha] 'fly'

● **b[b]: Voiced bilabial explosive. Only occurs in nasal compounds, e.g.:**

- (3) -thamba [thamba] 'get wet'
-lamba [lamba] 'get hungry'

● **bh[b̥]: Devoiced bilabial explosive, e.g.:**

- (4) -bhubha [b̥ub̥a] 'die'
-bhoboza [b̥oɔ̯ɔza] 'dent'

● **t[tʰ]: Ejective alveolar explosive, e.g.:**

- (5) -tataya [tʰatʰaja] 'learn to walk'
itatawu [tʰatʰawu] 'play ground'

● **th[th]: Aspirated alveolar explosive, e.g.:**

- (6) -thatha [thatha] 'take'
-thumba [thumba] 'win'

● **k[kʰ]: Ejective velar explosive, e.g.:**

- (7) ikunzi [ikʰunzi] 'bull'
-kakarela [kʰakʰarɛla] 'hold tightly'

● **k[k̠]: Radical velar explosive, e.g.:**

- (8) -phakela [phak̠ɛla] 'serve'
-phakama [phak̠ama] 'stand up'

● **g[g]: Voiced velar explosive. Only occurs in nasal compounds, e.g.:**

- (9) ngabuya [ŋgabuja] 'I came back'
ngakhamba [ŋgakhamba] 'I went'

- **g[ḡ]: Devoiced velar explosive that occurs outside nasal compounds,**

e.g.:

(10)	-gabha	[ḡaba]	‘vomit’
	-gida	[ḡida]	‘dance’

- **kh[kh]: Aspirated velar explosive, e.g.:**

(11)	isikhova	[isikhova]	‘owl’
	-khomba	[khomba]	‘point’

- **d[d̥]: Devoiced alveolar explosive. Occurs outside nasal compounds,**

e.g.:

(12)	amadada	[amadada]	‘swans’
	dabula	[dabula]	‘tear’

3.2.2 Implosives

- **b[b̥]: Bilabial implosive, e.g.:**

(13)	-buza	buza]	‘ask’
	-babaza	babaza]	‘exclaim’

3.2.3 Fricatives

- **f[f]: Voiceless dentilabial fricative, e.g.:**

(14)	-fihla	[fiʰa]	‘hide’
	-funda	[funda]	‘read’

- **v[v]: Voiced dentilabial fricative, e.g.:**

(15)	-vusa	[vusa]	‘wake up’
	-vuna	[vuna]	‘reap’

- **s[s]: Voiceless alveolar fricative, e.g.:**

- (16) -sela [sɛla] 'drink'
-siza [siza] 'help'

• **z[z]: Voiced alveolar fricative, e.g.:**

- (17) -zalisa [zalisa] 'fill in'
izulu [izulu] 'rain'

• **dl[h]: Voiced lateral alveolar fricative, e.g.:**

- (18) indlu [inhlu] 'house'
indlovu [inhlovu] 'elephant'

• **hl[ɬ]: Voiceless lateral alveolar fricative, e.g.:**

- (19) -hlaba [ɬaba] 'slaughter'
-hluma [ɬuma] 'grow'

• **h[h]: Voiced glottal fricative, e.g.:**

- (20) -halalisela [halalisɛla] 'congratulate'
amahala [amaɦala] 'nothingness'

• **rh[x]: Voiceless velar fricative, e.g.:**

- (21) -rharhaza [xaxaza] 'gargle'
-rhona [xɔna] 'snore'

• **dlh[h̥]: Voiced lateral aspirated alveolar fricative, e.g.:**

- (22) -dlhadlhabala [h̥hah̥habala] 'be stubborn'
idlhamedlhu [ih̥hameh̥hu] 'bullfrog'

3.2.4 Affricatives

• **ts[tsʰ]: Ejective alveolar affricative, e.g.:**

- (23) itsikiri [itsʰikʰiri] 'bicycle'
utsotsi [utsʰotsʰi] 'thief'

● **dz [dz]: Voiced alveolar affricative, e.g.:**

- (24) idzinyani [idziɲani] 'chick'
idzorwana [idzorwana] 'small intestine'

● **tl[tʰ]: Lateral ejective alveolar affricative, e.g.:**

- (25) abatoli [abatʰoli] 'authors'
imitlamo [imitʰamɔ] 'projects'

● **tj[tʃ]: Ejective pre-palatal affricative, e.g.:**

- (26) isitja [isitʃa] 'dish'
utjani [utʃani] 'grass'

● **tjh[tʃh]: Voiceless aspirated pre-palatal affricative, e.g.:**

- (27) isitjhebo [isitʃhɛbɔ] 'relish'
itjhatjhatjha [itʃhatʃhatʃha] 'fat cake'

● **j[dʒ]: Devoiced prepalatal affricative, e.g.:**

- (28) ijamo [iɟʒamɔ] 'shape'
imijeje [imiɟʒɛɟʒɛ] 'lines of people'

Note that the devoiced pre-palatal affricative becomes voiced in nasal compounds, e.g.:

- (29)inja [indʒa] 'dog'
injumbani [indʒumbani] 'sjambok'

● **kgh[kxh]: Voiceless aspirated velar affricative, e.g.:**

- (30) -kghophola [kxhɔphɔla] 'hook'
imikghadi [imikxhadi] 'blankets made of skin'

• **tlh[[tʰ]: Lateral aspirated alveolar affricative, e.g.:**

- (31) imitlhala [imitʰhag̊] 'traces'
 imitlhatlhana [imitʰhatʰhana] 'shacks'

• **tsh[tʃ]: Aspirated alveolar affricative, e.g.:**

- (32) -tshwenya [tʃwɛŋa] 'troublesome'
 -tshwila [tʃwila] 'postpone'

• **mf[ɱɸ]: Ejective dentilabial affricative sound that occurs in the nasal compound of [mf] only, e.g.:**

- (33) iimfesi [iiɱɸʰesi] 'fishes'
 umfundisi [uɱɸʰundisi] 'pastor'

• **mv[ɱɸv]: Voiced dentilabial affricative sound that occurs in the nasal compound of [mv] only, e.g.:**

- (34) imvu [iɱɸvu] 'sheep'
 iimvalo [iiɱɸvalɔ] 'lids'

3.2.5 Liquids

• **l[l]: Voiced lateral alveolar liquid, e.g.:**

- (35) -lalela [lalɛla] 'listen'
 -lila [lila] 'cry'

3.2.6. Vibrants

• **r[r]: Voiced alveolar vibrant, e.g.:**

- (36) -rera [rɛra] 'plan'
 imiraro [imirarɔ] 'problems'

3.2.7 Semi-vowels

• **y [j]: Pre-palatal semi-vowel, e.g.:**

(37)	yami	[jami]	‘mine’
	yakho	[jakhɔ]	‘yours’

● **w[w]: Velar semi-vowel, e.g.:**

(38)	wethu	[wethu]	‘ours’
	iwoma	[iwɔma]	‘group’

3.2.8 Nasals

● **m[m]: Bilabial nasal, e.g.:**

(39)	-mema	[mɛma]	‘invite’
	-memeza	[mɛmɛza]	‘yell’

● **[n]: Alveolar nasal, e.g.:**

(40)	nina	[nina]	‘you’
	unana	[unana]	‘baby’

● **[ŋ]: Velar nasal that occurs in nasal compounds only, e.g.:**

(41)	iinkomo	[iɪŋkɔmɔ]	‘cows’
	iingozi	[iɪŋgozi]	‘accidents’

● **ng[ŋ]: Velar nasal that only occurs outside nasal compounds, e.g.:**

(42)	-nghonghoyila	[ŋɔŋɔjila]	‘complain’
	-nghangha	[ŋaŋa]	‘resist’

● **ny[ɲ]: Prepalatal nasal, e.g.:**

(43)	inyonga	[iɲ ɔŋga]	‘thigh’
	inyama	[iɲama]	‘meat’

3.2.9 Click sounds

Not all click sounds occur in isiNdebele as compared to other Nguni languages such as isiZulu and isiXhosa, for instance. The following are the click sounds occurring in isiNdebele:

3.2.9.1 Dental clicks

- **c[ʔ]:Voiceless dental click, e.g.:**

- (44) -cabanga [ʔabaŋga] ‘think’
icala [iʔala] ‘crime’

- **ch[h]:Aspirated dental click, e.g.:**

- (45) -chisa [hisa] ‘make bed’
-chacha [ha/ha] ‘loosen’

- **gc[g]:Voiced dental click, e.g.:**

- (46) -g'gcguzela [gu/guzɛla] ‘encourage’
-gcina [gina] ‘end’

- **nc[ŋ]:Nasalised dental click, e.g.:**

- (47) -ncama [ŋama] ‘be determined’
isincele [isiŋɛlɛ] ‘left hand’

3.2.9.2. Palato-alveolar clicks

- **q[!]:Voiceless palato-alveolar click, e.g.:**

- (48) isiqunto [isi!untʰɔ] ‘decision’
iqiniso [i!iniso] ‘truth’

- **qh[!h]:Aspirated palato-alveolar click, e.g.:**

- (49) isiqhema [isi!hɛma] ‘group’
isiqhwala [isi!hwala] ‘disabled person’

• **gq[!g]:Voiced palato—alveolar click, e.g.:**

- (50) igqatjha [i!gatʃha] ‘sour porridge’
 isigqila [isi!gila] ‘slave’

• **ngq[(!)g]:Voiced nasalized palato-alveolar click, e.g.:**

- (51) ungqongqotjhe [uŋ!gɔŋ!gɔtʃhɛ] ‘minister’
 ingqondo [iŋ!gɔndɔ] ‘idea’

3.2.9.3 Lateral click

The only lateral click sound found in isiNdebele is the nasalized lateral click **nx [n//]** which occurs in a very limited number of words such as onomatopoeic ideophones and de-ideophonic verbs (Skhosana.1998:46), e.g.:

- (52) nx [n//] ‘interjective of annoyance’
 -nxafa [ŋ//afa] ‘utter click of annoyance’

The above isiNdebele sound system can be summarized in the following tabular form.

Table 3.1

	Bi-labial	Denti-labial	Alveolar	Pre-palatal	Velar	Glottal
Explosives						
Voiced	b[b]		d [d]		g [g]	
Ejective	p[p’]		t [t’]		k [k’]	
Devoiced	bh [b̥]		d [d̥]		g [g̥]	
Aspirated	ph [ph]		th[th]		kh[kh]	
Radical					k[k̚]	

Implosive	b [b]					
Nasals	m [m]	m[m]	n[n]	ny [ɲ]	ng [ŋ]	
Fricatives						
Voiceless		f [f]	s [s]		rh [x]	
Voiced		v [v]	z [z]			h [h]
Lateral voiced			dl [ɖ]			
Lateral Voiceless			hl [ɸ]			
Lateral aspirated			dlh [ɸh]			
Affricatives						
Ejective		mf[mfɸ']	ts [ts']	tj [tʃ']		
Voiced		mv[mvɸ]	dz [dz]			
Devoiced				j [dʒ]		
Aspirated			tsh [tʃh]	tjh [tʃh]	kg [kxh]	
Lateral Ejective			tl [tɸ']			
Lateral aspirated			tlh [tɸh]			
Liquid			l [l]			
Vibrant			r [r]			
Voiced explosive			(n) [dr]			
Voiced			(n) [dᵣ]			
Devoiced						
Semi-				y [j]	w [w]	

vowels						
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Table 3.2

Click consonants

	Dental	Palato-alveolar	Lateral
Voiceless	c [ʈ]	q [ʈʰ]	
Aspirated	ch [h]	qh [ʰh]	
Voiced	gc [ɖ]	gq [ɖʱ]	
Nasalized	nc [ɳ]	ngq [ɳʱ]	nx [ɳʰ]

De Villiers (1987:2-3) describes the Afrikaans consonant system as follows:

3.3 The Afrikaans consonant system

3.3.1 Explosives

- /p/[p]: Voiceless bilabial stop sound, e.g.:

(53) pap [pap] 'porridge'
pad [pat] 'road'

- /b/[b]: Voiced bilabial stop sound, e.g.:

(54) botter ['bɔtər] 'butter'
bak ['bak] 'bake'

- /c/: Palatal explosive, e.g.:

(55) mondjie ['mɔŋci] 'little mouth'
karkatjie [kar'kaci] 'sty (on the eye)'

● /k/[k]: Voiceless velar stop sound, e.g.:

- (56) kop [ˈkɔp] ‘head’
 kom [ˈkɔm] ‘come’

● /g/: Voiced velar stop sound, e.g.:

- (57) ghoen [gun] ‘taw’
 gholf [gɔlf] ‘golf’

3.3.2 Fricatives

● /f/[f]: Voiceless labiodental fricative, e.g.:

- (58) faal [fa:l] ‘fail’
 faam [fa:m] ‘fame’

● /v/[v]: Voiced labiodental fricative, e.g.:

- (59) was [vas] ‘wash’
 weg [vɛx] ‘road’

● /s/[s]: Voiceless alveolar fricative, e.g.:

- (60) slaan [sla:n] ‘beat’
 slaap [sla:p] ‘sleep’

● /z/[z]: Voiced alveolar fricative, e.g.:

- (61) zoem [zum] ‘zoom’
 zero [ˈze:ro] ‘zero’

• /ʒ/: Voiced palatal-alveolar fricative, e.g.:

- (62) jas [ʒak] 'coat'
jaar [ʒaːrə] 'year'

• /g/[x]: Voiceless velar fricative, e.g.:

- (63) gaan [xa:n] 'go'
berg ['bɛrx] 'mountain'

• /ʃ/: Voiceless palatal-alveolar fricative, e.g.:

- (64) sjef [ʃef] 'chef'
sjampanje [ʃampanjə] 'champagne'

• /ç/: Palatal fricative, e.g.:

- (65) gieter [çitər] 'watering can'
gee [çe:] 'give'

3.3.3 Affricates

• /ts/[ts]: Voiceless alveolar affricate, e.g.:

- (66) tsaar [tsa:r] 'czar'
tsotsi [ˈtsɔ(:)tsi] 'tsotsi'

• /tʃ/: Voiceless palatal-alveolar affricate, e.g.:

- (67) Tsjaad [tʃa:t] 'Chad'

Tsjeg [tʃɛx] 'Czech'

3.3.4 Vibrants

- /r/[r]: Alveolar vibrant, e.g.:

(68) rus [rœs] 'rest'

rou [rœu] 'raw'

- /R/ Uvular vibrant, e.g.:

(69) reg [rɛx] 'right'

regop [rɛxɔp] 'upright'

3.3.5 Nasals

- /m/[m]: Bilabial nasal, e.g.:

(70) meer [me:r] 'more'

mat [mat] 'carpet'

- /n/[n]: Alveolar nasal, e.g.:

(71) nat [nat] 'wet'

nael [na:l] 'nail'

- /ɲ/: Palatal nasal, e.g.:

(72) aan'ja [a(:)ɲja] 'hurry'

beentjie [be:ɲci] 'little leg'

- **/ŋ/: Velar nasal, e.g.:**

- (73) bang [baŋ] ‘afraid’
dankie [ˈdaŋki] ‘thank you’

3.3.6 Lateral

- **/l/[l]: Lateral liquid, e.g.:**

- (74) lou [ləu] ‘luke warm’
lug [lœx] ‘sky’

3.3.7 Glides

- **/w/[v] : Labial glide , e.g.:**

- (75) wag [vax] ‘wait’
wal [val] ‘bank’

- **/j/[j]: Palatal glide, e.g.:**

- (76) jaart [ja:rt] ‘yard’
jag [jax] ‘hunt’

- **/h/: Glottal Glide, e.g.**

- (77) hond [hɔnt] ‘dog’
hoef [huf] ‘hoof’

3.4 The rendition of Afrikaans consonant phonemes in isiNdebele loan words.

Calteaux (1996:197) states that:

“The adaptation of foreign words also occurs on a phonological level. Most adoptives are adapted into the sound system of the receiving language.”

Adopted foreign words with consonant phoneme clusters do not always conform to the structure of the African languages, especially the Nguni languages where a CVCV syllable structure is a strict pattern. In the following paragraphs the adoption and rendition of Afrikaans consonants in isiNdebele loanwords is discussed under the following sub-headings:

- (a) The rendition of Afrikaans single consonant phonemes in isiNdebele
- (a) The rendition of Afrikaans consonant cluster phonemes in isiNdebele.

The phonetic transcription used in the following paragraph of Afrikaans loan words is in accordance with Le Roux and Pienaar (1976).

3.4.1 The adoption of Afrikaans single consonant phonemes into isiNdebele

A number of Afrikaans single consonant phonemes are adopted as they are, while others undergo phonological changes to suit the isiNdebele phonemic system.

2.3.0.0 The Afrikaans bilabial stop sounds /b/[b]/ ['b]

The Afrikaans bilabial stop sounds **b**[b]/ ['b] are rendered as a devoiced bilabial sound **bh** [b̥] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans: /b/[b]/['b']	:	IsiNdebele: /bh/ [b̥]	
(78)	beter ['be:tər]	>	bhedere [b̥ ɛd̥ ɛrɛ]	‘better’
	bewys [bə'vøis]	>	ibheveyisi [ib̥ ɛvejisi]	‘proof’
	bank [baŋk]	>	ibhanga [ib̥ aŋga]	‘bank’

boontjies ['bo:ŋcis] > amabhontjisi [aməbontʃ'isi]
 'beans'

Note that the rendition of the Afrikaans bilabial stop sound **b[b]** as an implosive **b[ɓ]** occurs in a very limited number of Afrikaans loaned words in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(79) baba ['ba(:)ba] > ibhaba [ib̩ aɓa] 'baby'
 brood [bro:t] > uburotho [uburɔthɔ] 'bread'.

3.4.1.2. The Afrikaans voiced alveolar plosive sound /d/ [d]

The Afrikaans voiced phoneme **[d]** is rendered as a devoiced alveolar explosive sound **d[d̥]** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans: /d/[d]	>	IsiNdebele: /d/[d̥]	
(80)	dak [dak]	>	idaga [id̥aɡa]	'roof'
	deeg [de:x]	>	idiyerhe [id̥iyexɛ]	'dough'
	draad [dra:t]	>	idrada [id̥rada]	'wire'
	verder ['fɛ(:)rdər]	>	federe [fɛd̥ɛrɛ]	'furthermore'

3.4.1.3. The Afrikaans voiceless and voiced dentilabial fricative sounds **f[f]/[fʰ]** and **v[v]/[vʰ]**

The Afrikaans voiceless and voiced dentilabial **f[f]/[fʰ]** and **v[v]/[vʰ]** are both rendered as a voiceless dentilabial fricative sound **f[f]** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans: /f/[f]/[fʰ]	>	IsiNdebele:/f/[f]	
(81a)	fyn [fəin]	>	feyini [fejini]	‘fine’
	fris [frəs]	>	fresi [fresi]	‘well-built’
	flou [fləu]	>	flowu [flowu]	‘weak’
	verf [fɛrf]	>	iferefe [ifɛrɛfɛ]	‘paint’
	/v/[f]/[fʰ]	>	/f/[f]	
(81b)	vroeg [frux]	>	-frurhu [fruxu]	‘early’
	vrag [frax]	>	ifraxa [ifraxa]	‘load’
	vis [fəs]	>	ifesi [ifesi]	‘fish’
	verder [fɛ(:)rɔdɛr]	>	-federe [fɛdɛrɛ]	‘further’

3.4.1.4 The Afrikaans voiceless velar plosive sounds **/g/[x]/[xʰ]**

The Afrikaans velar sound **/g/[x]** is rendered as a voiceless velar fricative sound **/rh/[x]** in isiNdebele and although there is an orthographic difference between these sounds, there is no difference in pronunciation. Compare the following examples:

	Afrikaans: /g/[x]	>	IsiNdebele: /r/h[x]	
(82a)	gans [xans]	>	irhansi [ixansi]	‘goose’
	glas [xlas]	>	irhalasi [ixalasi]	‘glass’
	garing [xa:rə]	>	irhara [ixara]	‘thread’
	vlag [flax]	>	iflarha [iflaxa]	‘flag’
	vroeg [frux]	>	frurhu [fruxu]	‘early’

However, in a limited number of Afrikaans loaned words **g[x]/[ʰx]** is also rendered as **kgh[kxh]** or **tjh[tʃh]** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples:

	Afrikaans g[x]/[ʰx]	>	IsiNdebele kgh[kxh]or tjh[tʃh]	
(82b)	gom [xɔm]	>	ikghomu [ikxhomu]	‘glue, (tree) gum’
	gif [ʰxɛf]	>	itjhefu [itʃhefu]	‘poison’
	geel [ʰxɛ:l]	>	-tjheli [tʃheli]	‘yellow’

3.4.1.5 The Afrikaans voiceless glottal fricative sounds /h/[h]/[ʰh]

The Afrikaans **/h/[h]/[ʰh]** is rendered as a voiced glottal fricative sound **h[ɦ]** in IsiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans: /h/[h]/[ʰh]	>	IsiNdebele: /h/[ɦ]	
(83)	hok [ʰhɔk]	>	ihogo [ihɔḡɔ]	‘cage’
	hark [ʰhark](v)	>	-hariga [ɦariḡa]	‘rake’
	hek [ʰhɛk]	>	ihege [ihɛḡɛ]	‘gate’
	hoek [ʰhuk]	>	ihugu [ihugḡu]	‘corner’

Note that it is only in one Afrikaans loan word that the sound **h[h]** is not pronounced but discarded . e.g.:

(84) (h)oorlosie [ho(:)r 'lo:si] > i-orlosi. 'watch'

3.4.1.6 The Afrikaans voiceless ejective velar sounds /k/[k]/[k']

The Afrikaans ejective velar explosive phoneme /k/[k]/[k'] is mainly rendered as an ejective velar **k[k']** and to a lesser extent as a voiced velar phoneme **g[g]** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans: /k/[k]/[k']	>	IsiNdebele: k[k']	
(85a)	kamer ['ka:mər]	>	ikamero [ik'amɛɾɔ]	'room'
	skool ['sko:l]	>	isikolo [isik'ɔlɔ]	'school'
	kanker ['kɑŋkər]	>	ikankere [ik'aŋkɛɾɛ]	'cancer'
	skade [ska:t]	>	isikata [isik'ata]	'damage'
		>		
	/k/[k]	>	/g/[g]	
(85b)	kalkoen [kal'kun]	>	igaligune [ig'aligunɛ]	'turkey'
	laken ['la:kən]	>	ilageni [ilageni]	'sheet'
	rok [rɔk]	>	irogo [irog'o]	'dress'

3.4.1.7 The Afrikaans voiced alveolar lateral sound /l/[l]/[l']

The Afrikaans lateral liquid phoneme /l/[l]/[l'] is rendered as the voiced lateral alveolar liquid sound **l[l]** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples:

	Afrikaans: /l/[l]/[ʎ]	>	IsiNdebele: /l/[l]	
(86)	laai ['la:i]	>	ilayi [ilaji]	‘drawer’
	laken ['la:kən]	>	ilageni [ilagēni]	‘sheet’
	lemoen [lə'mun]	>	ilamune [ilamunɛ]	‘orange’
	sleutel ['slø:təl]	>	isilodlhelo [isilɔh̥hɛlɔ]	‘key, lock’

3.4.1.8 The Afrikaans voiced bilabial /m/[m]/[m̥] and alveolar nasal sound

/n/[n]/[n̥]

The Afrikaans bilabial /m/[m]/[m̥] and the alveolar nasal /n/[n]/[n̥] are rendered as /m/[m] and /n/[n] respectively in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans:/m/[m]/[m̥]	>	IsiNdebele: /m/[m]	
(87)	mark ['mark]	>	imaraga [imarag̊a]	‘market’
	mat [mat]	>	imada [imad̊a]	‘carpet’
	maar [ma:r]	>	mara [mara]	‘but’
	kamer ['ka:mər]	>	ikamero [ikamɛrɔ]	‘room’
	lemoen [lə'mun]	>	ilamune [ilamunɛ]	‘orange’

	/n/[n]/ [n̥]	>	/n/[n]	
(88)	naald [na:lt]	>	inalidi [inalid̊i]	‘needle’
	lemoen [lə'mun]	>	ilamune [ilamune]	‘orange’
	nooi ['no:i]	>	unoyi [unoji]	‘young lady’

kroon ['kro:n] > ikroni [ikroni] 'crown'

3.4.1.9 The Afrikaans voiceless ejective bilabial explosive phonemes /p/[p]/[pʰ]

The Afrikaans ejective bilabial explosive phoneme /p/[p]/ [pʰ] is rendered as the ejective bilabial explosive phoneme p[pʰ] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard.

	Afrikaans: /p/[p]/[pʰ]	>	IsiNdebele: /p/[pʰ]	
(89)	paal ['pa:l]	>	ipali [ip'ali]	'pole'
	spyker ['spəikəɾ]	>	isipikiri [isip'ik'iri]	'nail'
	perd [pɛ:rt]	>	ipera [ip'ɛra]	'horse'
	kamp [kamp]	>	ikampa [ik'amp'a]	'camp'

3.4.1.10 The Afrikaans voiced alveolar vibrant sound /r/[r]

The Afrikaans voiced alveolar vibrant phoneme /r/[r] is rendered as the same sound which is a voiced alveolar vibrant sound /r/[r] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans:/r/[r]	>	IsiNdebele:/r/[r]	
(90)	spyker ['spəikəɾ]	>	isipikiri [isip'ik'iri]	'nail'
	hark ['hark]	>	ihariga [iharig̱a]	'rake'
	venster ['f̃ɛ:stəɾ]	>	ifesdere [ifesḏ ɛɾɛ]	'window'
	raas [ra:s]	>	-rasa [rasa]	'make noise'

3.4.1.11 The Afrikaans voiceless alveolar phoneme /s/[s]/[ʃ]

The Afrikaans voiceless alveolar /s/[s]/[ʃ] is rendered the same as isiNdebele voiceless alveolar fricative /s/[s]. Compare the following examples below:

	Afrikaans: /s/[s]/[ʃ]	>	IsiNdebele: /s/[s]	
(91)	saad [sa:t]	>	isadi [isadi]	‘seed’
	skool [ʃko:l]	>	isikolo [isikʰɔlɔ]	‘school’
	skip [skəp]	>	isikepe [isikʰɛpʰɛ]	‘boat’
	roes [rus]	>	irusi [irusi]	‘rust’
	mors [mɔrs]	>	-morosa [mɔrɔsa]	‘waste’

3.4.1.12 The Afrikaans voiceless alveolar phoneme /t/[t]/[tʰ]

The Afrikaans voiceless alveolar phoneme /t/[t] is rendered as an ejective alveolar explosive sound **t[tʰ]** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples below:

	Afrikaans: /t/[t]/[tʰ]	>	IsiNdebele: /t/[tʰ]	
(92a)	tafel [ʰta:fəl]	>	itafula [itʰafula]	‘table’
	tee [te:]	>	itiye [itʰijɛ]	‘tea’
	tamatie [taʰma(:)i]	>	itamati [itʰamatʰi]	‘tomato’
	stoel [ʰstul]	>	isitulo [isitʰulɔ]	‘chair’

Note that in a few Afrikaans loan words the phoneme **t[t]** occurs as the devoiced alveolar explosive phoneme **d[d̥]**. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans:/t/[t]	>	IsiNdebele:/d/[d]	
(92b)	straat [stra:t]	>	isitrada [isitr'ada]	'street'
	sput [spœyt]	>	isipeyidi [isip'ɛjidi]	'syringe'
	venster [ˈf̃ɛ:stər]	>	ifesdere [ifesɔ̃ ɛrɛ]	'window'
	goewerment [xuvər'mɛnt]	>	urhulumende [uxulumɛndɛ]	'government'

3.4.1.13 The Afrikaans semi-vowel /w/[v]/[ʋ]

The Afrikaans semi-vowel /w/[v]/[ʋ] is rendered as the voiced dentilabial fricative sound **v**[v] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans: /w/[v]/[ʋ]	>	IsiNdebele /v/[v]	
(93a)	wiel ['vil]	>	ivilo [ivilɔ]	'wheel'
	wol [vɔl]	>	ivolo [ivɔlɔ]	'wool'
	week [ve:k]	>	iveke [ivɛkɛ]	'week'
	winkel ['vɛŋkəl]	>	ivikili [ivik'ili]	'shop'

However, in a limited number of Afrikaans loan words it is notable that the semi-vowel /w/ is sometimes rendered as an implosive bilabial phoneme /b/[b]. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans: /w/[v]	>	IsiNdebele /b/[b]	
(93b)	nuwe jaar [nyvə'ja:r]	>	unebejara [unɛbɛdʒara]	'New Year'
	sewentig ['se:vəntɔg]	>	sebentarha [sɛbɛnt'axa]	'seventy'

dru <i>iw</i> e [ˈdrœy̯və]	>	amadrey <i>ib</i> e [amadr̩ejib̩ɛ]	‘grapes’
swak [ˈsvak]	>	-sibaga [sib̩ag̩a]	‘weak’
werk	>	-ber <i>e</i> ga [b̩ɛr̩ɛg̩a]	‘work’

3.4.2 The Afrikaans cluster phonemes

Afrikaans adopted words into isiNdebele have double consonant combination. As in most Nguni languages, isiNdebele has a CVCV syllable structure. As already noted in most cases, foreign adopted items are adapted to this CVCV system when imported into the receiving African language, especially in the Nguni languages. In isiNdebele, two adoption strategies apply to foreign words where (a) most cluster phonemes are adopted without following the common Nguni syllabification rule of CVCV and (b) a limited number of words that adhere to the Nguni syllabification rule.

In the case of cluster phonemes that do not conform to the Nguni syllabification rule, isiNdebele speakers have a tendency to pronounce such Afrikaans loan words without vowel insertion between the cluster consonants, meaning that cluster consonants are rendered as CCVCCV as they occur in the donor language.

3.4.2.1 The Afrikaans consonant cluster /br/ and /bl/

The Afrikaans cluster consonants /br/ and /bl/ are rendered as /bhr/ and /bhl/ respectively in isiNdebele, meaning that without vowel insertion between the consonant /bh/ and the vibrant /r/ and the lateral liquid /l/. Compare the following examples below:

	Afrikaans: /br/	>	IsiNdebele: /bhr/	
(94)	brug [ˈbrœx]	>	ibhr̩r̩rho [ib̩r̩ɔxɔ]	‘bridge’
	broek [ˈbruk]	>	ibhr̩rug̩u [ib̩rug̩u]	‘trouser’
	briek [brik]	>	ibhr̩rig̩i [ib̩rig̩i]	‘brake’

brei [brøi] > **-bhreya** [brɛja] ‘knit’

Note that only one example of the Afrikaans consonant cluster /br/ has been found to be rendered as CVCV in isiNdebele, e.g. *brood* > **uburotho** ‘bread’.

	Afrikaans /bl/	>	isiNdebele /bhl/	
(95)	blik ['blək]	>	ibhlege [iblɛgɛ]	‘tin’
	blink ['blɛŋk]	>	-bhlenga [blɛŋgɑ]	‘shine’
	blok [blɔk]	>	ibhlogo [iblɔgɔ]	‘block’
	blare ['bla:rə]	>	amabhleri [amablari]	‘leaves’

3.4.2.2 The Afrikaans consonant cluster /dr/

The Afrikaans consonant cluster /dr/ is rendered as /dr/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans: /dr/	>	IsiNdebele: /dr/ [dr]	
(96)	draad [dra:t]	>	idrada [idrɑdɑ]	‘wire’
	draai [dra:i]	>	idrayi [idrɑji]	‘corner, curve’
	druie [drøyvə]	>	amadreyibe [amadrɛjibɛ]	‘grapes’

3.4.2.3 The Afrikaans consonant clusters /fl/; /fr/ and /vl/; /vr/

The Afrikaans consonant clusters /fl/; /vl/ are both rendered as /fl/ while /fr/ and /vr/ occur as /fr/ respectively in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Afrikaans /fl/ and /vl/		>	IsiNdebele /fl/	
(97a)	f lou ['fləu]	>	-f lowu [flowu]	‘weak’
	f luit ['flœyt]	>	if leyidi [iflejidi]	‘flute’
	v lae ['fla:ə]	>	ama flarha [amaflaxa]	‘flags’
	v lei [fleɪ]	>	if leyi [ifleji]	‘valley’
	v loer ['flu:r]	>	if luru [ifluru]	‘floor’

Afrikaans /fr/ and /vr/		>	IsiNdebele /fr/	
(97b)	f ris ['frəs]	>	-f resi [fresi]	‘well-built’
	v ryf ['frœɪf]	>	-f reyifa [frejifa]	‘rub’
	v roeg [frux]	>	f rirhu [fruxu]	‘early’
	v rag [frax]	>	if rarha [ifraxa]	‘load’

However, it is important to note that very few lexical items adopted from Afrikaans and English with these consonant clusters.

3.4.2.4 The Afrikaans consonant clusters /gl/ and /gr/

In the case of the Afrikaans consonant clusters /gl/ and /gr/, a vowel is commonly inserted between the two consonants in the cluster in the isiNdebele, meaning that these clusters are syllabified according to the CVCV pattern and Afrikaans /g/ > /rh/ in isiNdebele.

Compare the following examples in this regard:

Afrikaans: /gl/and /gr/		>	IsiNdebele: /rh/ + vowel +/l/	
(98a)	g lad [xlat]	>	-r haladi [xaladi]	‘smooth’

	glas ['xlas]	>	irhalasi [ixalasi]	'glass'
	glo [xlo:]	>	-rholowa [xolowa]	'believe'
	gly ['xløi]	>	-rhileya [xilɛja]	'glide, slip'
	/gr/	>	/rh/ + vowel +/r/	
(98b)	groef [xruf]	>	irhurufu [ixurufu]	'groove'
	grawe ['xra:və]	>	amarharafu [amaxarafu]	'spades'
	groente ['xruntə]	>	amarhurunde [amaxurundɛ]	'vegetables'
	grof [xrɔf]	>	rhorofu [xɔrofufu]	'coarse'

3.4.2.5 The Afrikaans consonant clusters /kl/, /kr/ and /kn/

The Afrikaans consonant clusters /kl/ and /kr/ are rendered as the cluster consonants /tl/ and /kr/ respectively, in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans /kl/	>	IsiNdebele /tl/	
(99a)	kla [kla:]	>	tlarha [tʰ'axa]	'complain, report'
	klam ['klam]	>	tlamu [tʰ'amu]	'damp, moist'
	klap [klap]	>	-tlabha [tʰ'aba]	'slap'
	klink ['klɛŋk]	>	-tlenka [tʰ'ɛŋk'a]	'clink, clank'
	/kr/	>	/kr/	
(99b)	kraan [kra:n]	>	ikrani [ikrani]	'tap'
	krag ['krax]	>	ikrarha [ikraxa]	'power (electric)'

krimp ['krɒmp]	>	-krempe [krɛmp'a]	'shrink'
krom ['krɒm]	>	-kromu [kromu]	'crooked, curved'

In a limited number of Afrikaans loan words a vowel is inserted between the clustered consonants /kr/. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans /kr/	>	isiNdebele /k/ + vowel + /r/	
(99c)	skrop ['skrɒp]	>	-korobha [k'ɔrɔb'a]	'scrub'
	krap [krap]	>	-karabha [k'araba]	'scratch'
	kry [krɔi]	>	-kereya [k'ɛrɛja]	'find, get'

However, in the consonant cluster /kn/ in isiNdebele inserts a vowel in between. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(99d)	knoffel [knɔ'fɛl]	>	ikonofula [ik'onofula]	'garlic'
	knoop ['kno:p]	>	ikunubhe [ikunub'e]	'button'

3.4.2.6 The Afrikaans consonant clusters /pl/ and /pr/

The Afrikaans consonant clusters /pl/ and /pr/ are rendered as /pl/ and /pr/ respectively in isiNdebele. There is no vowel insertion between the two consonants. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans:/pl/	>	isiNdebele /pl/	
(100a)	plank [plɑŋk]	>	iplanka [ipl'aŋka]	'plank'
	ploeg [plu:] (n)	>	iplurhu [ipl'uxu]	'plough'

	plaas [pla:s]	>	iplasi [ipl'asi]	'farm'
	plooi ['plo:I]	>	iployi [ipl'oyi]	'pleat'
	/pr/	>	/pr/	
(100b)	prys [prøis]	>	ipreyisi [iprejisi]	'price'
	prop [prɔp]	>	iprobho [iprɔbɔ]	'stopper'
	pruim [prøeym]	>	ipremu [ipremu]	'plum'

3.4.2.7 The consonant clusters /sk/; /sl/; /sm/; /sn/; /sp/; /st(r)/ and /sw/

Ndebele speaking people adopted numerous lexical items from Afrikaans with consonant clusters such as /sk/, /sl/, /sm/, /sn/, /sp/, /str/ and /sw/. These Afrikaans consonant clusters are commonly syllabified by means of vowel insertion in isiNdebele to conform to the CVCV syllable structure of the Nguni languages. Note that most, if not all Afrikaans loaned nouns that start with /s/, fall into Class 7 in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans /sk/	>	IsiNdebele /s/ + vowel + /k/	
(101a)	skelm ['skɛlɔm]	>	isikelemu [isik'ɛlemu]	'crook'
	skaal ['ska:l]	>	isikali [isik'ali]	'scale'
	skottel ['skɔtɔl]	>	isikotlelo [isik'ɔtɔlɔ]	'dish'
	skool ['sko:l]	>	isikolo [isik'ɔlɔ]	'school'

	/sl/	>	/s...l/	
(101b)	slagyster ['sla:x'ɔister]	>	isilarha [isilaxa]	'trap (animal)'
	sleg ['slɛx]	>	-silerthe [silɛxɛ]	'bad, evil'

	slinger ['slɛŋɐr]	>	isilenghere [isilɛŋɐɾɛ]	'sling, pendulum (clock)'
	sleutel ['sløtɛl]	>	isilodlhelo [isilɔŋhɛlɔ]	'key'
	/sm/	>	/s/ + vowel + /m/	
(101c)	smeer ['sme:r]	>	simera [simɛra]	'smear, spread'
	smous ['sməus]	>	isimowusu [isimowusu]	'hawker'
	smaak ['sma:k]	>	isimaga [isimaga]	'flavour, taste'.
	/sn/	>	/s/ vowel + /n/	
(101d)	snaar ['sna:r]	>	isinari [isinari]	'string, cord (guitar)'
	snaaks [sna:ks]	>	sinagisi [sinagisi]	'funny'
	snuif [snœyf]	>	isineyifu [isinejifu]	'snuff, '
	sny [snəi]	>	isineyi [isineji]	'slice (bread)'
	/sp/	>	/s/ + vowel + /p/	
(101e)	span [span]	>	isipani [isip'ani]	'team, span'
	spyker ['spøikɐr]	>	isipikiri [isip'ikiri]	'nail'
	spook ['spo:k]	>	isipoko [isip'ɔk'ɔ]	'ghost'
	spoor ['spo:r]	>	isiporo [isip'ɔrɔ]	'trail'
	/st/	>	/s/ + vowel + /t/	
(101f)	staal ['sta:l]	>	isitali [isit'ali]	'steel'

steen [ˈste:n]	>	isitina [isit'ina]	‘brick’
steenkool [ˈste:nko:l]	>	isitenkule [isit'eŋk'uɫɛ]	‘coal’
stuk [stœk]	>	isitoki [isit'oki]	‘piece’

/str/ > **/s/ + vowel + /tr/**

(101g) straf [straf]	>	isitrafu [isitrafu]	‘punishment’
stroop [stro:p]	>	isitrubhu [isitrubu]	‘syrup’
straat [stra:t]	>	isitrada [isitrada]	‘street’
strooi [stro:i]	>	isitroyi [isitroji]	‘bridesmaid’

Very few Afrikaans loan words with the consonant cluster **/sw/** are found in isiNdebele. The Afrikaans consonant cluster **/sw/** is commonly rendered as **/s/ + a vowel + /b/** in this language. Compare the following examples in this regard:

/sw/ > **/s/ + vowel + /b/**

(101h) swak [ˈsvak]	>	-sibaga [sibaga]	‘weak’
swaar [sva:r]	>	-sibari [sibari]	‘difficult, heavy’
swaer [svaer.]	>	usibari [usibari]	‘brother- in- law’

It is notable that **usibari** (>Afr, *swaer*) brother-in- law is one of the examples of the Afrikaans loaned words in isiNdebele that does not fall in Class 7 but in class 1(a).

3.4.2.8 The consonant cluster **/tr/**

The Afrikaans consonant cluster **/tr/** is rendered as **/tr/** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	Afrikaans /tr/	>	isiNdebele /tr/	
(102)	trommel ['trɔməɫ]	>	itromula [itr'omula]	'trunk'
	tronk [trɔŋk]	>	itrongo [itr'ɔŋgɔ]	'prison'
	trap [trap]	>	itrabhu [itr'abu]	'step'
	trollie ['trɔli]	>	itroli [itr'oli]	'trolley'

The discussion of the adoption and adaptation of Afrikaans consonant phonemes into isiNdebele is summarized and illustrated in Table 3 below.

Table 3.3

(a) Single Afrikaans phonemes that do not change in isiNdebele	
Afrikaans	isiNdebele
d[d]	d[d]
f[f]/[f]	f[f]
l[l]/[l]	l[l]
m[m]/[m]	m[m]
n[n]/[n]	n[n]
p[p']/[p]	p[p']
r[r]	r[r]
s[s]/[s]	s[s]
(b) The Afrikaans single phonemes that undergo phonological change in isiNdebele	

b[b]/[^h b]	b[b̥] / b[b̥]
v[f]/[^h f]	f[f]
g[x]/[^h x]	rh[x] / kgh[kxh]/tjh[tʰh]
k[k]/[^h k]	k[kʰ] / g[g̊]
t[t]/[^h t]	t[tʰ] / d[d̥]
w[v]	v[v] / b[b̥]
(c) The Afrikaans cluster phonemes that are not syllabified by vowel insertion in isiNdebele	
/bl/	/bhl/ [bhl]
/dr/	/dr/ [dr]
/fr/, /fl/	/fr/ [fr], /fl/ [fl]
/pl/	/pl/ [pl]
/vr/, /vl/	/fr/ [fr], /fl/ [fl]
/kl/	/tl/ [tl]
/tr/	/tr/ [tr]
(a) The Afrikaans cluster phonemes that are syllabified by vowel insertion in isiNdebele	
/br/ [br]	
/gl/ [gl], /gr/ [gr]	
/kn/ [kn], /kr/ [kr]	
/sk/ [sk], /sl/ [sl], /sm/ [sm], /sn/ [sn], /sp/ [sp], /st(r)/ [str], /sw/ [sw]	

CHAPTER 4

ADAPTATION OF ENGLISH CONSONANT PHONEMES INTO ISINDEBELE

4.1. Introduction

In this chapter, the adoption and the adaptation of English consonants are investigated and discussed. The English consonant system differs significantly from that of Afrikaans in that English phonemes are pronounced differently from Afrikaans consonants. English is one of the foreign languages that are more complicated with regard to its consonant system because of the fact that we have different types of English spoken around the world (i.e. American, British and South African English).

In this study, however, the focus is on South African English. It is important to point out that isiNdebele speaking people mainly came into contact with English vocabulary through (formal) education and the media. In the following paragraphs the adoption and adaptation of English phonemes into isiNdebele loan words are discussed under the following sub-headings:

- (a) The English consonant system
- (b) The rendition of English consonants in isiNdebele loanwords.

4.2. The English consonant system

According to Kreidler (1997:54), South African English has 24 consonant phonemes. In the following section the South African English consonant system is given.

4.2.1 Plosives

/p/: Voiceless bilabial plosive, e.g.:

- (1) cup [kʌp]
- peck [pek]

/b/: Voiced bilabial plosive, e.g.:

- (2) **bet** [bet]
 bib [bib]

/t/: Voiceless alveolar plosive, e.g.:

- (3) **tot** [tɒt]
 hate [heit]

/d/: Voiced alveolar plosive, e.g.:

- (4) **did** [did]
 head [hed]

/k/: Voiceless velar plosive, e.g.:

- (5) **kick** [kik]
 neck [nek]

/g/: Voiced velar plosive, e.g.:

- (6) **get** [get]
 gag [gæg]

4.2.2 Affricates

/tʃ/: Voiceless palato-alveolar affricate, e.g.:

- (7) **church** [tʃɜ:tʃ]
 cheap [tʃi:p]

/dʒ/: Voiced palato-alveolar affricate, e.g.:

- (8) judge [dʒʌdʒ]
jive [dʒaɪ v]

Fricatives

/f/: Voiceless labiodental fricative, e.g.:

- (9) fife [faɪf]
fifth [fɪθ]

/v/: Voiced labiodental fricative, e.g.:

- (10) vote [vout]
thieve [θi:v]

Dental Fricatives

/θ/: Voiceless dental fricative, e.g.:

- (11) thin [θɪn]
thick [θɪk]

/ð/: Voiced dental fricative, e.g.:

- (12) then [ðen]
wreath [ri:ð]

/s/: Voiceless alveolar fricative, e.g.:

- (13) size [saɪz]
sea [si:]

/z/: Voiced alveolar fricative, e.g.:

- (14) **zoo** [zu:]
 zero ['ziərəʊ]

/ʃ/: Voiceless palato-alveolar fricative, e.g.:

- (15) **shine** [ʃain]
 she [ʃi]

/ʒ/: Voiced palato-alveolar fricative, e.g.:

- (16) **measure** [meʒə]
 leisure [leʒə]

/h/: Voiceless glottal fricative, e.g.:

- (17) **he** [hi:]
 heat [hi:t]

Nasals

/m/: Bilabial nasal, e.g.:

- (18) **mob** [mɒb]
 bomb [bɒm]

/n/: Alveolar nasal, e.g.:

- (19) **nod** [nɒd]
 don [dɒn]

/ŋ/: Velar nasal, e.g.:

(20) gang [gæŋ]

rang [ræŋ]

4.2.6 Oral Approximants

/l/: Lateral approximant, e.g.:

(21) lie [lai]

lock [lɒk]

/r/: Post alveolar approximant, e.g.:

(22) red [red]

rule [ru:l]

/j/: Palatal approximant, e.g.:

(23) yet [jet]

year [jiə]

/w/: Labial-velar approximant, e.g.:

(24) war [wɔ]

wet [wet]

4.3. The rendition of English consonant phonemes in isiNdebele loan words.

4.3.1 The English single consonants

The phonetic transcriptions of English words used in the following paragraph is in accordance with the Macmillan English Dictionary (2002).

4.3.1.1 The English phoneme /b/[b] / ['b]

The English stop sound **b[b]** / ['b] is rendered as **b[bh]** and **b[b̥]** in isiNdebele.

Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English: /b/[b]	:	IsiNdebele: /bh/[b̥]
(25a)	badge [bædʒ]	>	ibheji [ib̥edʒi]
	bag [bæg]	>	ibhege [ib̥eg̥e]
	ball [bɔ:l]	>	ibholo [ib̥ɔlɔ]
	bandage ['bændɪdʒ]	>	ibhanditjhi [ib̥anditʃhi]
	bicycle ['baɪsɪkl]	>	ibhayisikili [ib̥ajisik'ili]

In a few adopted English words, this sound occurs as an implosive bilabial sound **b[b̥]** as in the following examples:

(25b)	baby ['beɪ bi]	>	ibhebi [ib̥ebi]
	cabbage ['kæbi dʒ]	>	ikhabitjhi [ik̥habitʃhi]
	dribble ['dribl]	>	-dribula [d̥riɸula]

4.3.1.2 The English phonemes /c/['k] / [k]

The English phoneme **c['k]** / [k] occurs in three variant forms in isiNdebele. Before the vowel **a[a]** and the back vowel **o[ɔ]** and **u[u]** it occurs as an aspirated velar sound **kh[kh]**. Compare the examples below:

	English /c/['k] / [k]	:	IsiNdebele/kh/[kh]
(26a)	café ['kæfeɪ]	>	ikhefi [ik̥hefi]

camera ['kæm(ə)rə]	>	ikhemera [ikhɛmɛra]
caravan ['kærə,væn]	>	ikharavani [ikharavani]
calendar ['kælinə]	>	ikhalenda [ikhalɛndə]
company ['kʌmp(ə)ni]	>	ikhampani [ikhamphani]
computer [kəm'pjʊ:tə]	>	ikhomphyutha [ikhomphjutha]
college ['kɒlɪdʒ]	>	ikholiji [ikholidʒi]
decoder [di:'əʊdɪ]	>	idikhowuda [idikhowudə]
cup [kʌp]	>	ikhabhu [ikhabu]
current ['kʌrɪnt] (n)	>	ikharendi [ikharendi]
curtain ['kɜ:tɪn]	>	ikhetheni [ikhɛθɛni]
custard ['kʌstəd]	>	ikhastede [ikhastedɛ]

When **c**['k] / [k] occurs at the end of an adopted word is rendered as an ejective velar **g**['g']. Compare the following examples in (26b) below:

(26b)	/c/ [k]	:	/g/ [g]
	phonetic [f ə'netɪk]	>	ifonetigi [ifonet'ig'i]
	physics ['fɪzɪks]	>	ifizigsi [ifizigsi]
	comic ['kɒmɪk] (n)	>	ikhomiki [ikhomig'i]
	ceramic [sə'ræmɪk]	>	isiramigi [isiramig'i]
	lyrics ['lɪrɪks]	>	amalirigi [amalirig'i]

The English phoneme c[s]/ [s] occurs as a voiceless alveolar fricative s[s] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (26c) below:

(26c)	/c/['s] /['s]	>	/s/['s]
	centre ['sentə]	>	isentha [isɛntha]
	century ['sentʃəri]	>	isentjhuri [isentʃhuri]
	concert ['kɒnsət]	>	ikhonsadi [ikhonsadi]
	cinema ['sɪnəmə]	>	isinema [isinɛma]
	circle [ˌsɪɔ̃ʃə'reɪ]	>	isekela [isɛgɛrɛdɛ]
	circuit ['sɜ:kɪt]	>	isekede [isɛkɛdɛ]
	cylinder ['sɪlɪndə]	>	isilinda [isilinda]
	bicycle ['baɪsɪkl]	>	ibhayisikili [ibajisik'ili]
	encyclopedia [ɪnˌsaɪklə'pi:diə]	>	i-ensayitlophidiya [i-ɛnsajit'ophidija]

Note that an adoptive ijuzi [idzuzi] (< Eng. juice [dʒu:s]) is one of the examples where the English phoneme c[s] occurs as a voiced lateral alveolar fricative /z/ in isiNdebele.

4.3.1.3 The English phoneme /d/[d]

The English alveolar explosive /d/ has five variant forms (i.e. **d[dʒ]**, **d['dj]**, **d[dj]**, **d['d]**) that are channeled into the devoiced /d/[d] and devoiced pre-palatal affricate /j/[dʒ] in isiNdebele. The English alveolar explosive **d[d]** **d[d̥]** in isiNdebele while all its variant forms occur as a devoiced pre-palatal affricate **j[d̥ʒ]** in isiNdebele.

Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English /d/[d]	>	IsiNdebele /d/[d̥]
(27a)	brandy ['brændi]	>	ibhrendi [ib̥rendi]
	dice [dais]	>	idayisi [id̥ajisi]
	design [di'zaɪn] (v)	>	-dizayina [d̥izajina]
	democracy [di'mɒkrəsi]	>	idemokhrasi [id̥emokhrasi]

	/d/[d̥ʒ], /d/'d̥j], /d/[d̥j] /d/'d̥]	>	/j/[d̥ʒ]
(27b)	procedure [prə'si:dʒə]	>	iphrosija [iphrosid̥ʒa]
	duty ['dju:ti]	>	ijuthi [id̥ʒuthi]
	module ['mɒdju:l]	>	imojula [imod̥ʒula]
	duvet ['du:vei]	>	ijuvedi [id̥ʒudi]

4.3.1.4 The English phonemes /f/[f] / [f̥] and /ph/[f̥]

English adopted words with phonemes **f[f]** / [f̥] and **ph[f̥]** occur as dentilabial fricative **f[f]** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (28a) and (28b) in this regard:

	English/f/[f] / [f̥]	>	IsiNdebele/f/[f̥]
(28a)	factor ['fæktə]	>	ifektha [if̥ktha]
	factory ['fæktri]	>	ifekthri [if̥ekthri]
	furniture ['fɜ:nɪtʃə]	>	ifinitjhari [if̥initʃhari]
	fence [fens]	>	ifensi [if̥ensi]
	film [film]	>	ifilimu [if̥ilimu]

/ph/[['f] /**[f]** > **/f/**[f]

- (28b) **physics** ['fɪzɪks] > **ifizigsi** [ifizigsi]
sphilis ['sɪfəlɪs] > **isifilisi** [isifilisi]
phonetic [fə'netɪk] > **ifonetigi** [ifonetigi]
philosophy [fi'lɒsəfi] > **ifilosofi** [ifilosofi]

4.3.1.5. The English phonemes /g/[g] and /g/[dz]

English phoneme /g/[g] occurs as a devoiced velar explosive /d/[d], devoiced pre-palatal /j/[dz], voiceless aspirated pre-palatal /tjh/[tjh] and ejective pre-palatal /tj/[t..]in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (29a):

- | | English /g/ [g] | > | IsiNdebele /g/ [g̊] |
|-------|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| (29a) | gear [gɪ ə] | > | igeri [ig̊eri] |
| | geyser ['gɪ:zə] | > | igizari [ig̊izari] |
| | gown [gəʊn] | > | igawuni [ig̊awuni] |
| | dragon ['dræɡən] | > | idragoni [id̊rag̊oni] |

In other loaned words it occurs as a devoiced pre-palatal affricate **j[d̊ ʒ]** in isiNdebele.

Compare the following examples in (29b) in this regard:

- | | English/g/ [dʒ] | > | IsiNdebele/j/ [d̊ ʒ] |
|-------|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| (29b) | surgery ['sɜ:dʒəri] | > | isejari [isɛd̊ʒari] |
| | generator ['dʒenə,ret̩] | > | ijenereyidi [id̊ʒenɛrejidi] |

college ['kɒlɪdʒ]	>	ikholiji [ikholidʒi]
ginger ['dʒɪndʒə]	>	ijinja [idʒɪndʒa]

In some words it occurs as **tjh**[**tʃh**] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (29c) below:

	English/g/ [dʒ]	>	IsiNdebele /tjh/[tʃh]
(29c)	bandage ['bændɪdʒ]	>	ibhanditjhi [ibanditʃhi]
	cabbage ['kæbɪdʒ]	>	ikhabitjhi [ikhabitʃhi]
	garage ['gærɑ:ʒ]	>	igaratjhi [igaratʃhi]

In some limited number of loan words it is appearing as **tj**[**tʃ'**] in isiNdebele. Compare the following example below:

	English /g/[dʒ]	>	IsiNdebele /tj/[tʃ']
(29d)	sponge [spʌndʒ]	>	isipontji [isip'ontʃ'i]
	orange ['ɒrɪndʒ]	>	i-orintji [i-orintʃ'i]

4.3.1.6 The English phonemes /h/['h]/ [h]

There are a limited number of English lexical items with the phoneme **h**['h] / [h] that has been adopted by isiNdebele. In such cases, the phoneme /h/ occurs as /h/ in isiNdebele. Compare the examples below:

	English/h/['h] / [h]	:	IsiNdebele/h/[h]
(30)	hall [hɔ:lɪ]	>	iholo [ihɔlɔ]
	holiday ['hɔlɪdeɪ]	>	iholideyi [iholɪd̥eji]
	hanger ['hæŋə]	>	ihanghere [ihæŋɛɛ]
	helmet ['helmit]	>	ihelmede [ihɛlmɛd̥ɛ]

According to this investigation, it is only in the word *umrhedeni* [umxɛd̥ɛni] ‘heathen [hi:ðn]’, where the English adoptive phoneme h[h] is rendered as rh[x] in isiNdebele.

4.3.1.7 The English phonemes /j/[dʒ]/ ['dʒ]

The phoneme /j/[dʒ]/ ['dʒ] occurs as a devoiced pre-palatal affricate j[d̥ʒ] in isiNdebele words that have been adopted from English. Compare the following examples below.

	English/j/[dʒ]/ ['dʒ]	>	IsiNdebele /j/[d̥ʒ]
(31)	jam [dʒæm]	>	ijemu [id̥ʒɛmu]
	jokey ['dʒɔki]	>	ujoki [ud̥ʒɔk'i]
	jersey ['dʒɜ:zi]	>	ijeresi [id̥ʒɛresi]
	juice [dʒu:s]	>	ijuzi [id̥ʒuzi]

4.3.1.8 The English phonemes /k/[k] / ['k]

The English phoneme k[k] / ['k] commonly occurs as an aspirated velar sound kh[kh] and when occurring at the end of a word, it is rendered as a devoiced velar sound g̥[g̥] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (32a) and (32b) in this regard:

	English/k/ [k]/ ['k]	>	IsiNdebele/kh/[kh]
(32a)	key [ki:]	>	isikhiya [isikhija]
	kiss [kɪs] (v)	>	-khisa [khisa]
	kitchen ['kɪtʃən]	>	ikhwitjhi [ikhwitʃhi]
	/k/ [k]	>	/g/[g̊]
(32b)	park [pɑ:k]	>	phaga [phaḡa]
	truck [trʌk]	>	itraga [itr'ag̊a]
	luck [lʌk]	>	ilagi [ilag̊i]
	chalk [tʃɔ:k]	>	itjhogo [itʃhɔḡɔ]

4.3.1.9 The English phonemes /l/[l] / [ɫ]

The English alveolar liquid phonemes /l/[l] / [ɫ] do not change in isiNdebele.

IsiNdebele renders the phoneme /l/[l] and its variant /l/[ɫ] as /l/ in isiNdebele words adopted from English. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/l/[l] / [ɫ]	>	IsiNdebele/l/[l]
(33)	line [laɪn]	>	ilayini [ilajini]
	latitude ['lætɪ,tju:d]	>	ilatitjudi [ilat'itʃ'ud̥i]
	parliament ['pɑ:ləmənt]	>	ipalamende [ip'alamɛnd̥ɛ]
	holiday ['hɒlɪdeɪ]	>	iholideyi [iholidɛji]

4.3.1.10 The English nasal phonemes /m/[m]/ [ɱ] / [m̥] and n[n]/[n̥]

The English bilabial and alveolar nasals **m**[m] / [m̥] and **n**[n] are all rendered as /m/[m] and /n/[n] respectively in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (34a) and (34b) in this regard:

	English /m/[m]/ [ɱ] / [m̥]	>	IsiNdebele /m/[m]
(34a)	m agazine [ˌmæɡʒəˈziːn]	>	u magazini [umagazini]
	c ement [səˈment] (n)	>	is a mende [isamɛndɛ]
	p yramid [ˈpɪrəˌmɪd]	>	iphir a mididi [iphiramidi]
	n umber [ˈnʌmbə] (n)	>	in a mba [inamba]
	/n ['n]/[n̥]	>	/n [n]
(34b)	n otice ['nəʊtɪs] (n)	>	ino t hisi [inothisi]
	n ovel ['nɒvl]	>	ino v ela [inovela]
	o rganism ['ɔːɡəˌnɪz(ə)m]	>	i-og a nizimu [i-og anizimu]
	e namel [ˈnæml]	>	i-ino a meli [i-inamela]

4.3.1.11 The English phonemes /p/[p]/ [p̥]

The English phoneme /p/[p]/ [p̥] is commonly rendered as an aspirated bilabial explosive sound /ph/[ph] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (35a):

	English /p/[p]/ [p̥]	>	IsiNdebele /ph/[ph]
(35a)	p ipe [paɪp]	>	iph a yiphu [iphajiphu]
	p rincipal [ˈprɪnsəpl]	>	up h rinsipali [uphrinsip'ala]

parcel ['pɑ:səl]	>	iphasela [iphasela]
paper ['peɪpə]	>	iphepha [iphepha]

In a limited number of nouns and verbs this phoneme becomes the ejective bilabial explosive /p/[p'] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples:

	English/p/[p]/ [p']		IsiNdebele/p/[p']
(35b)	paint [peɪnt]	>	- penda [p'end̥ a]
	parliament ['pɑ:ləmənt]	>	ipalamende [ip'alamɛnd̥ ɛ]
	pencil ['pensl]	>	ipensela [ip'ɛnsɛla]
	pick [pɪk]	>	ipiki [ip'ik'i]

4.3.1.12 The English phoneme /q/['kw]

The English /q/['kw] is rendered as /kh/[kh] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/q/['kw]	>	IsiNdebele/kh/[kh]
(36a)	quotient ['kwɒʃnt]	>	ikhotjhiyendi [ikhotʃhijend̥ɿ]
	quorum ['kwɔ:rəm]	>	ikhoramu [ikhoramu]
	quadrant ['kwɒdrənt]]	>	ikhwadranti [ikhwad̥ ranti]
	quality ['kwɒləti]	>	ikhwalithi [ikhwalithi]

However, in a few exceptional words this phoneme /q/['kw] has been found to occur as /g/[g] and k[k'] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/q/['kw]	>	IsiNdebele/g/
(36b)	quarry ['kwɔri]	>	igwari [igwari]
	quarter ['kwɔ:tə]	>	ikota [ik'ota]

4.3.1.13 The English phonemes /r/['r]/[r]

The English vibrant /r/ occurs unchanged in isiNdebele, meaning that it is rendered as /r/. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/r/['r]/[r]	>	IsiNdebele/r/[r]
(37)	radius ['reɪ diəs]	>	irediyasi [ired ijasi]
	period ['piəriəd]	>	iphiriyodi [iphirijodi]
	perimeter [pə'rɪmɪtə]	>	ipherimitha [ipherimitha]
	paraffin ['pærəfɪn]	>	ipharafini [ipharafini]

4.3.1.14 The English phonemes /s/[s]/ ['s]

The English phonemes /s/[s]/ ['s] occur as a voiceless fricative(s) and a voiced alveolar fricative /z/ in isiNdebele, meaning that it is rendered as s[s]. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English	:	IsiNdebele
	s[s]	:	s[s]
(38a)	salad ['sæləd]	>	isaladi [isalaɖɪ]
	scrap [skræp]	>	isikrebhe [isik'rɛbɛ]

postcard ['pəʊst,kɑ:d] > iposkarada [ip'osik'arada]
 bioscope ['baɪə,skəʊp] > ibhasikopo [ibʰasik'əp'ɔ]

In words where **s[s]** is at the end of a word and precedes the bilabial nasal **m[m]**, it is rendered as **z[z]** in both English and Afrikaans. Compare the following examples below:

English	:	IsiNdebele
s [z]	:	z[z]
(38b) metabolism [mə'tæbə,lɪz(ə)m]	>	imethabholizimu [imethab̥ lizimu]
nationalism ['næʃnə,lɪz(ə)m]	>	ubunetjhinalizimu [ubunetʃhinalizimu]
plagiarism ['pleɪ dʒə,rɪz(ə)m]	>	iphlajarizimu [iphladʒarizimu]
colonialism ['kə'ləʊniə,lɪz(ə)m]	>	ikholoniyalizimu [ikhɔlonijalizimu]

4.3.1.15 The English phonemes **t[t]/ [t]** and **t[tj]**

The English phonemes **/t/[t]/ [t]** are rendered as an ejective alveolar explosive **t[t']** an aspirated alveolar explosive **/th/** the devoiced alveolar explosive **/d/ [d]** and voiceless aspirated pre-palatal affricative **/tjh/ [tjh]** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (39a) and (39b) in this regard:

	English/ /t[t]/ [t']	>	IsiNdebele/t/[t']
(39a)	tyre ['taɪ ə]	>	itayere [it'ajɛɾɛ]
	teacher ['ti:tʃə]	>	utitjhere [ut'itʃhɛɾɛ]
	centimeter ['sentɪ,mi:tə]	>	isentimitha [isent'imitha]
	continent ['kɒntɪnənt]	>	ikhontinendi [ikhont'inendi]
	t [t] / [t']	>	th[th]
(39b)	telegram ['telɪ,ɡræm]	>	ithelegramu [ithɛlɛɾɛ ɡramu]
	technology [tek'nɒlədʒi]	>	itheknoloji [ithɛknɒlədʒi]
	computer [kəm'pjʊ:tə]	>	ikhomphyutha [ikhomphjutha]
	liter ['li:tə]	>	ilitha [ilitha]

When the English voiceless alveolar plosive /t/[t] occurs at the end of a word, it is rendered as a devoiced alveolar explosive /d/[d̥] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples:

	English/t/ [t]	>	IsiNdebele/d/[d̥]
(39c)	certificate [sə'tɪfɪkət]	>	isitifikeyidi [isit'ifik'eyid̥i]
	receipt [rɪ'si:t]	>	irasidi [irasid̥i]
	concrete ['kɒŋkri:t] (n)	>	ikhonkhridi [ikhonkhrid̥i]

The English phoneme /t/[tj] occurs as /tjh/[tʃh] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/t/ [tj]	>	IsiNdebele/tjh/[tjh]
(39d)	tube [tju:b]	>	itjhubhu [itʃhubu]
	tune [tju:n]	>	itjhuni [itʃhuni]
	tunic [tju:nɪk]	>	itjhuniki [itʃhunik'i]

4.3.1.16 The English phonemes v[v]/[v]

The English phonemes /v/[v] /['v] are channelled to /v/[v] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/v/[v] /['v]>	IsiNdebele/v/[v]
(40)	vote [vəʊt] (v)	> -vowuda [vowud̥a]
	voucher ['vaʊtʃə]	> ivowutjha [ivowutʃha]
	varnish ['væniʃ] (n)	> ivanitjhi [ivanitʃhi]
	silver ['silvə]	> isiliva[isiliva]
	velvet ['velvɪt]	> ivelvede [ivelved̥ɛ]

4.3.1.17 The English phonemes /w/[w]/['w]

The English variant phonemes /w/[w]/['w] are rendered as a velar semi-vowel /w/[w] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

English/w/[w]/[ʷ] > IsiNdebele/w/[w]

- (41) wine [waɪn] > iwayini [iwajini]
 watch [wɒtʃ] (n) > iwatjhi [iwatʃhi]
 waiter [ˈweɪtə] > uweyitha [uwejitha]
 wallet [ˈwɒlɪt] > iwaladi [iwaladi]

4.3.1.18 English phonemes /x/[z], x[ks] and [kz]

There are very few English loan words in isiNdebele with the phoneme /x/[z]. In a few words that exist, the English phoneme /x/[z] is rendered as [z], [ks] and [kz] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

English/x/ [ʒ]/ [z] > IsiNdebele/z/[z]

- (42a) xylophone [ˈzaɪləfəʊn] > izilofoni [izilɔfoni]
 xenophobia [ˌzenəˈfəʊbiə] > izenofobhiya [izenofɔbɪja]
 xerox [ˈziərəʊks] > izeroksi [izeroksi]

/x/[ks] > /ks/[ks]

- (42b) oxygen [ˈɒksɪ dʒ(ə)n] > i-oksijini [i-oksɪdʒini]
 pharynx [ˈfærɪŋks] > ifarinksi [ifarɪŋksi]

/x/[kz] > /kz/[kz]

- (42c) oxymoron [ɒksiˈmɔːrɒn] > i-okzimoroni [i-okzimɔrɒni]
 axiom [ˈæksiəm] > i-ekziyomu [i-ekzijomu]

4.3.1.19 The English phonemes /z/[z] / [z]

In a few loaned words that exist in isiNdebele vocabulary, the English phonemes /z/[z] / [z] is rendered as /z/. Compare the following examples below:

	English/z/['z]/ [z]	>	IsiNdebele/z/[z]
(43)	zebra ['zebrə]	>	izebhra [izeb̥ ra]
	zip [zɪp] (n)	>	izibhu [izib̥ u]
	zinc [zɪŋk]	>	izinki [iziŋki]
	zoo [zu:]	>	izu[izu]

4.3.1.20 The English phonemes /ch/ ['tʃ]/[tʃ]/[kh] and ch[k]/ [k]

The English variant phonemes /ch/['tʃ]/[tʃ] and ch [k]/ [k] are rendered as /tjh/ and /kh/ respectively in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English /ch/[tʃ]	>	IsiNdebele/tjh/
(44a)	chalk [tʃɔ:k]	>	itjhogo [itʃhɔ̥gɔ̥]
	chamber ['tʃeɪmbə]	>	itjhemba [itʃhɛmba]
	cheese [tʃi:z]	>	itjhizi [itʃhizi]
	chimney [tʃɪmni]	>	itjhimela [itʃhimɛla]
	ch/ ['k]/ [k]	>	/kh/
(44b)	chemist ['kɛmɪst]	>	ikhemisi [ikhemisi]
	chemicals ['kɛmɪkl]	>	amakhemikhali [amakhemikhali]

choreographer [ˌkɔːriəˈdʒrəfə]	>	ikhoriyografa [ikhoriˈjoɡrafɪ]
chromosome [ˈkrɒsəm, səʊm]	>	ikhromozomu [ikhɾɔmozɔmu]

4.3.2 English consonant clusters

English is a language that contains consonant clusters that comprise two or more consonants such as /**chl**/, /**chr**/, /**sch**/ etc. Commonly, loan words with consonant clusters are rendered as CVCV when adopted in the Nguni languages such as isiZulu: e.g. **ikilasi** < class, **ipulastiki** < plastic, etc). In isiNdebele, most speakers render English cluster consonants as they occur in foreign languages, i.e. CCV. In the following paragraphs, cluster consonants from English loan words are discussed as they are adopted into the isiNdebele lexical system.

4.3.2.1 The English consonant cluster /br/

The English consonant cluster /**br**/ is rendered as /**bhr**/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

English/br/	>	IsiNdebele/bhr/
(45) brush [brʌʃ] (n)	>	ibhratjhi [ibratʃhi]
break [breɪk](n)	>	ibhregi [ibregi]
bribe [braɪb] (n)	>	-bhrayibha [brajiba]

4.3.2.2 The English consonant clusters /cl/, /chl/, /chr/ and /cr/

The English cluster consonants /**cl**/ and /**chl**/ occur as /**tl**/, while /**chr**/ and /**cr**/ are rendered as /**kh**r/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (46a) and (46b) in this regard:

	English /cl/ and /chl/	>	IsiNdebele/tl/
(46a)	clinic ['klnɪk]	>	itlinigi [itʰ'inigi]
	climate ['klaɪmət]	>	itlayimedi [itʰ'ajimedi]
	clutch [klʌtʃ]	>	itlatjhi [itʰ'atʃhi]
	chlorophyll ['klɒrəfɪl]	>	itlorofili [itʰ'ɔrofili]
	English /chr/ ,/kr/ ,/cr/	>	IsiNdebele/khr/
(46b)	chrome [krəʊm]	>	ikhromu [ikhromu]
	chromosome ['krɒsəmə,səʊm]	>	ikhromozomu [ikhɾɔmɔzɔmu]
	chrysalis ['krɪsəlɪs]	>	ikhrisalisi [ikhrisalisi]
	crotchet ['krɒtʃɪt]	>	ikhrotjhedi [ikhrotʃhedɪ]
	criminology [ˌkrɪmɪ'nɒlədʒi]	>	ikhriminoloji [ikhriminɔlədʒi]
	cricket ['krɪkɪt]	>	ikhrikhedi [ikhrikhedɪ]

4.3.2.3 The English consonant clusters /dr// /dr/

The English consonant cluster variants, /**dr**/ and /**dr**/ are channelled and rendered as /**dr**/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples:

	English/dr/['dr]/[dr]	>	IsiNdebele/d r/
(47)	polyandry [ˌpɒli'ændri]	>	ipholiyandri [ipholijandri]
	drama ['drɑ:mə]	>	idrama [idrama]
	drip [dri:p] (n)	>	idribhu [idribu]

dragon ['dræɡən] > **idragoni** [idrəɡoni]

4.3.2.4 The English consonant clusters /fl/ ;/ phl/ and /fr/

The English consonant clusters /fl/ and /phl/ are rendered as /fl/ and /fr/ as /fr/.

Compare the examples in (48a) and (48b) below in this regard.

	English/fl/	>	IsiNdebele/fl/
(48a)	f lour [flaʊə]	>	if l awa [iflawa]
	f lag [flæg]	>	if l ege [iflɛgɛ]
	f luoride ['flʊərəɪd]	>	if l orina [iflorina]
	English/phl/	>	IsiNdebele/fl/
	ph lem [flem]	>	if l emu [iflemu]
	ph lebitis [flɪ'bæɪtɪs]	>	if l ebhithisi [iflebithisi]
	English/fr/	>	IsiNdebele/fr/
(48b)	f ranchise ['fræntʃaɪz]	>	if fr entjhayizi [ifrentʃajizi]
	f ridge [frɪdʒ]	>	if fr iji [ifridʒi]
	A frica ['æfrɪkə]	>	i- A frika [i-Afrik'a]

4.3.2.5 The English consonant clusters /gl/ and /gr/

In isiNdebele loaned words, the English consonant clusters /gl/ and /gr/ are rendered as /gl/ and /gr/ respectively. Compare the following examples in (49a) and (49b) in this regard:

	English/gl/	>	IsiNdebele/gl/
(49a)	glaucoma [glɔ:'kəʊmə]	>	iglokhoma [iglokhɔma]
	globe [glɔʊb]	>	iglobsi [iglobsi]
	glycerin ['glɪsərɪn]	>	iglezerina [iglezerina]
	glossary ['glɔsəri]	>	iglozari [iglozari]
	/gr/	:	/gr/
(49b)	grease [grɪ:s] (n)	>	igrisi [igrisi]
	grade [grɛɪd] (n)	>	igreyidi [igrejɪdɪ]
	grocery ['grɔʊsəri]	>	igrozari [igrozari]
	geography [dʒi:ɒ'græfi]	>	ijiyografi [idʒijografi]

4.3.2.6 The English consonant cluster /kn/

Very few English loan words with the consonant cluster /kn/ occur in the isiNdebele vocabulary. However, the consonant cluster /kn/ is rendered as a nasal /n/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/kn/	>	IsiNdebele/n/
(50)	knit [nɪt]	>	-nitha [nitha]
	knock [nɒk]	>	-nokha [nokha]

4.3.2.7 The English consonant clusters /pl/, /pr/ and /pn/

The two consonant clusters /**pl**/ and /**pr**/ occur as /**pl**/ and /**phr**/ respectively in isiNdebele words adopted from English. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/pl/	>	IsiNdebele/pl/
(51a)	p lanet ['plænit]	>	i planedi [ipl'aned̪i]
	p latinum ['plætɪnəm]	>	i plathinamu [ipl'athinamu]
	p late [pleɪt]	>	i pleyidi [ipl'ejidi]
	p lутonium [plu:t'əʊniəm]	>	i plathoniyamu [ipl'athonijamu]
	/pr/	>	/phr/
(51b)	p rincipal ['prɪnsəpl]	>	u phrinsipali [uphrinsip'ali]
	p riest [pri:st]	>	u mphristi [umphrist'i]
	p rophet ['prɒfɪt]	>	u mphrofidi [umphrofidi]
	p roject [prə'dʒekt]	>	i phrojekthi [iphrod̪ʒekthi]
	c ompressor [kəm'presə]	>	i khomphresa [ikhomphresa]

In a few English words, the consonant cluster /**pn**/ is pronounced as /ny/[**nj**]. In isiNdebele the consonant cluster /**pn**/[**nj**] is rendered as an alveolar nasal /**n**/[...]**n** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English/pn/	>	IsiNdebele/n/
(51c)	pneumonia [nju:'məʊniə]	>	inyumoniya [iɲumoniya]
	pneumatic [nju: 'mæti k]	>	inyumatholoji [iɲumatholodʒi]

4.3.2.8 The English consonant clusters /sc/, /sl/, /sp/, /sq/, /sch/ and /st/

In the case of the English loaned words, the consonant clusters /sc/, /sl/, /sp/, /sq/, /sch/ and /st/ generally insert a vowel in between the consonants in isiNdebele. The English clusters, for instance, /sc/ and /sq/ > /sk/, /s..k/ and /s/ while /sl/ > /s...l/, /sp/ > /s...p/, /st/ > /s...t/ in isiNdebele. Compare the examples in (52a)-52e) below:

	English /sc/ [sk],/sq/	>	IsiNdebele: /s..k/
(52a)	scanner ['skænə]	>	isikena [isik'ɛna]
	scrap ['skræp] (n)	>	isikrebhe [isikrɛb̥ɛ]
	screen [skr:n] (n)	>	isikrini [isikr'ini]
	squad [skwɒd]	>	isikwata [isikwat'a]
	square [skweə]	>	isikwere [isikwɛɾɛ]
	squash [skwɒʃ]	>	isikwatjhi [isikwatʃhi]

The English phoneme /sc/ [s] is rendered as [s] in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (52b).

	English: /sc/	>	IsiNdebele: /s/
(52b)	scenario [sə'ni:riəʊ]	>	isinariyo [isinarijo]
	science ['saɪəns]	>	isayensi [isayensi]
	scene [si:n]	>	isini [isini]

When the English consonant cluster /**sc**/ occurs inside a word and is rendered as the consonant cluster /**sk**/ in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in (52c) below:

English:/sc/	>	IsiNdebele: /sk/
(52c) telescope ['teli,skəʊp]	>	itheleskobhu [ithɛlɛskɔbu]
microscope ['maɪkrə,skəʊp]	>	imakhroskobhu [imakhɾɔskɔbu]

This phenomenon is similar to what was noted regarding the Afrikaans consonant clusters that start on /s/ as in par. 3.3.2.7 earlier. It seems that when the English consonant cluster /sk/ appears at the beginning of a word, it is (re) interpreted as the prefix of class 7 in isiNdebele. However, when this cluster appears inside the loan word, it is rendered as [sk] in isiNdebele. Compare examples (52a) and (52c) above in this regard:

(52d)	/sl/	>	/s/ + vowel + /l/
	slice [slaɪs] (n)	>	isilayi [isilaji]
	slogan ['sləʊɔɡən]	>	isilogeni [isilogɛni]
	slender ['slendə]	>	silenda [isilɛndə]
	slab [slæb]	>	isilebhe [isilɛbɛ]
(52e)	/sp /	>	/s/ + vowel + /p/
	spanner ['spænə]	>	isipanere [isip'anɛɛ]
	sponge [spʌndʒ]	>	isipontji [isip'ontʃi]
	spray [spreɪ] (n)	>	isipreyi [isipreji]
	spring [sprɪŋ]	>	isipringhi [isipriŋhi]

(52f)	/st/	>	/s/ + vowel + /t/
	stage [steɪ dʒ]	>	isiteji [isit'edʒi]
	stamp [stæmp] (n)	>	isitembu [isit'embu]
	statue ['stætʃu:]	>	isitetjhu [isit'etʃhu]
	stencil ['stensl]	>	isitensela [isit'ɛnsɛla]
	stitch [stɪtʃ] (n)	>	isititjhi [isititʃhi]

The English cluster consonant **/sch/** however occurs as **/s/ + vowel +/k/** and **/tjh/** in isiNdebele loaned words. Compare the following examples in this regard:

	English:/sch/	:	IsiNdebele: /tjh/ and /s/ + vowel + /k/
(52g)	scheme [ski:m]	>	isikimu [isikimu]
	schedule ['ʃedju:l]	>	itjhejula [itʃhedʒula]
	schizophrenia [,ski tsəʊ'frenɪk]	>	itjhizofiniya [itʃhizofinija]

4.3.2.9 The English consonant cluster **/tr/**

The English consonant cluster **/tr/** is rendered as **/tr/** in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard.

	English	:	IsiNdebele
(53)	/tr/	:	/tr/
	trigonometry [,tri ɡə'nɒmetri]	>	itrigonomethri [itriɡɔnmɛtri]
	trampoline ['træmp,li:n]	>	itrampolini [itramp'olini]

truck [trʌk]

>

itraga [itrəgə]

The above discussions can be summarized as follows in a tabular form:

Table: 4.1

(a) Single English phonemes that do not change in isiNdebele	
English	IsiNdebele
f[f]/[f]	f[f]
h[h]/[h]	h[h]
j[dʒ]/[dʒ]	j[d̥ʒ]
l[l]/[l]	l[l]
m[m]/[m]/[,m]	m[m]
n[n]/[,n]	n[n]
v[v]/[v]	v[v]
w[w]/[w]	w[w]
z[z]/[z]	z[z]
(b) English phonemes that phonologically change in isiNdebele	
b[b]/[b]	b[b̥] / b[b̆]
c[k]/[k]/[s]/[s]	kh[kh]/ k[k]/ [s]/ [z]
d[d]/[d]/[dʒ]/[dʒ]	d[d]/ j[d̥ʒ]
g[g]/[g]/[dʒ]/[dʒ]	g[ğ]/j[d̥ʒ]/tjh[tʃh]/tj[tʃ]
k[k]/[k]	kh[kh] / g[ğ]
p[p]/[p]	p[p̆]/[ph]

q[^h kw]	kh[kh] / g[^h g]/[k ^h ']
s[s]/ ['s]	s[s]/z[z]
t[t]/[t ^h]	t[t ^h]/ th[th]/d[d ^h]/ tjh[tjh]
x['z]/ [,z]	ks[ks]/ z[z] / kz[kz]
ch['tʃ]/[tʃ] /['k]/[,k]	tjh[tjh] / kh[kh]
(c) English cluster phonemes that are not syllabified by vowel insertion in isiNdebele	
<p>/br/</p> <p>/cl/, /chl/, /chr/, /cr/</p> <p>/dr/</p> <p>/fr/, /fl/, /phl/</p> <p>/gl/, /gr/</p> <p>/kn/</p> <p>/pl/, /pr/, /pn/</p> <p>/sch/</p> <p>/tr/</p>	
(d) English cluster phonemes that are syllabified by vowel insertion in isiNdebele	
/sc/,/sl/, /sch(l)/, /sp/, /st(r)/	

CHAPTER 5

SEMANTIC AND MORPHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF ADOPTION OF AFRIKAANS AND ENGLISH LOANWORDS INTO ISINDEBELE

5.1. Introduction

In this chapter the semantic and morphological aspects of Afrikaans and English words adopted into isiNdebele are investigated and discussed. Kamwangamula (2000:89) points out that when a language adapts certain items from another language, it is not just a matter of co-existence of these languages over a long period of time, but there are also other factors at play. In this regard, Nkondo and Jafta in Van Huyssteen (2003:115) assert that no language is self-sufficient, because no perfectly homogeneous language group exists, meaning that all languages are bound to borrowing as long as they are in contact.

Ansre (1971:151) supports this observation when he states that adoption:

“...is determined by socio cultural factors. Given such co-existence and also a situation in which the culture of the speakers of one language is regarded as socially and technologically dominant, the major flow of linguistic items will be primarily from the direction of the language of the dominant cultural group to that of the dominated speech community.”

In the South African context, African languages continue to borrow new lexical items from Afrikaans and English, not because of language dominance, but for technological, industrial, economical and socio-political reasons. Vick Webb (undated Masters study notes:19) further points out that generally the speakers of indigenous African languages perceive their languages as not able to serve as useful instruments of learning, economic activity, social mobility or any other serious public business because of lack of necessary lexical equipment or status for use in the secondary domains of life. As a result of close contacts and lack of suitable and appropriate terminology for certain foreign concepts in isiNdebele, the vocabulary of this language has been increased through borrowing from Afrikaans and English. In

the following paragraphs, isiNdebele vocabulary adopted from Afrikaans and English is discussed according to the following sub-headings:

Afrikaans and English; different domains that isiNdebele has borrowed from
The different word category that words that isiNdebele has borrowed from
Afrikaans and English belong to.

5.2 Semantic fields: the adoption of Afrikaans and English words in isiNdebele

IsiNdebele has adopted numerous lexical items from Afrikaans and English from different fields (such as education, religion, agriculture, industry, health, etc.) and to some extent these items have even replaced the native vocabulary, as for instance;

- (1) -bhedere ‘better’ (<Afr: *beter*) (instead of –ngcono)
 -rhanorho ‘enough’ (< Afr: *genoeg*) (instead of –anele)

Hock and Joseph (1996:272), for instance, remark that prestige also plays an important role in determining the degree and extent of borrowing as well as what kinds of words are likely to be borrowed. Semantically, isiNdebele has drawn foreign vocabulary from the following fields.

5.2.1 Religion and Christianity

IsiNdebele speaking people as well as people belonging to the other indigenous South African cultural groups originally worshipped their ancestors. The arrival of the missionaries brought Christian belief that introduced a number of new concepts to the isiNdebele speaking people. These new religious concepts were, as a result, adopted and incorporated into Ndebele lexical stock. Consider the following examples in this regard:

- (2) iBhayibheli ‘Bible’ (< Eng)
 ikerege ‘church’ (< Afr: kerk)
 -bhabhadisa ‘baptise’ (< Eng)
 umvangeli ‘evangelist’ (< Eng)
 ivesi ‘verse’ (< Eng)

5.2.2 Education

Before the missionaries, indigenous African societies relied on oral education which was handed down from generation to generation by word of mouth. It was after the arrival of the missionaries when formal education in the form of book learning was first introduced to African societies. The formalization of education among African societies through the medium of English and Afrikaans resulted in a large number of educational terms being introduced and adopted into African languages. IsiNdebele adopted a larger number of educational terms from English than Afrikaans. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(3)	isikolo	‘school’	(<Afr: skool)
	i-ofisi	‘office’	(<Eng)
	utitjhere	‘teacher’	(<Eng)
	iraba	‘rubber’	(<Eng)
	iphepha	‘paper’	(<Eng)

5.2.3 Industries and agriculture

The amaNdebele were never exposed to industries and commercial agricultural practices during the olden days. The arrival of white people with their industrial and agricultural skills resulted into amaNdebele working as farm and industrial labourers. As a result, numerous agricultural and industrial terms from Afrikaans and English were adopted to increase their vocabulary in both industrial and commercial fields. Compare the following examples in (4a) and (4b) in this regard:

Industrial terms

(4a)	umtjhini	(< Eng/Afr: masjien)	‘machine’
	ibhoyilari	(< Eng)	‘boiler’
	imayini	(<Eng)	‘mine’
	igolide	(< Eng)	‘gold’
	iplathinamu	(< Eng)	‘platinum’
	idayimani	(< Eng)	‘diamond’

Agricultural terms

(231b)	iplurhu	(< Afr: ploeg)	‘plough’
	iplantere	(< Afr: planter)	‘planter’
	ijogi	(< Afr: juk)	‘yoke’
	itreyilari	(< Eng)	‘trailer’
	itregera	(< Afr: trekker)	‘tractor’

5.2.4 Transport and communication

During the olden days only feet, horses, and oxen were commonly used a mode of transport amongst African societies. Similarly, communication was also difficult and messages only passed from one to the other through drum beat, flute or personal contact. As a result of the western technology, new modes of transport and communication were introduced to the amaNdebele with their new terms. These terms were also adopted and added to the amaNdebele vocabulary. The following are examples of transport and communication terms adopted from Afrikaans and English.

Transport

(5a)	ilori	‘lorry’	(<Afr: lorrie)
	iveni	‘van’	(<Eng)
	ibhasigili	‘bicycle’	(< Eng)
	ithraga	‘truck’	(< Eng)
	imodere	‘motor car’	(< Eng)

Communication

(5b)	ithelegamu	‘telegram’	(< Eng)
	iposo	‘post’	(< Afr: pos)
	ithelefowuni	‘telephone’	(< Eng)
	ithelevitjhini	‘television’	(< Eng)
	i-esemesi	‘SMS: Short Messaging Service’	(< Eng)

5.2.5 Clothing

As a result of contact with white people, African societies further changed their way of dressing. The new western types of attire replaced the African basic traditional attire which was a skin or later cloth. The western clothing style amongst the amaNdebele introduced a numerous terms into isiNdebele vocabulary especially from Afrikaans. Compare the following terms in this regard:

(6)	irogo	‘dress’	(< Afr: rok)
	ibhrugu	‘trousers’	(< Afr: broek)
	irhembhe	‘shirt’	(< Afr: hemp)
	iveste	‘vest’	(< Afr/Eng)
	ibhlowusu	‘blouse’	(< Eng/ Afr: bloes)
	ikowusu	‘socks’	(< Afr: kous)

5.2.6 Home and food

The western lifestyle did not only influence indigenous South African societies in domains such as their household utensils but also in regard to their day-to-day traditional diet. Numerous household materials and utensils that came with the Europeans to South Africa and the type of food they eat introduced a number of adopted utensils and food vocabulary in isiNdebele lexical stock as can be seen in the following examples:

Household utensils

(7a)	ipani	‘frying pan’	(< Afr: pan)
	ilebhula	‘spoon’	(< Afr: lepel)
	iforogo	‘fork’	(< Afr : vurk)
	ipleyidi	‘plate’	(< Eng)
	ibhigiri	‘mug’(< Afr: beker)	
	ibhorodo	‘ plate’	(< Afr: bord)
	umbhede	‘bed’	(< Eng)
	isitulo	‘chair’	(< Afr: stoel)
	itafula	‘table’	(< Afr: tafel)

Food

(7b)	uburotho	‘bread’	(< Afr: brood)
	ikhekhe	‘cake’	(< Eng)
	ikuke	‘cake’	(< Afr: koek)
	ikhasitede	‘custard’	(< Eng)
	itjhizi	‘cheese’	(< Eng)

5.2.7 Professional and sports terms

There is a large number of professional and sports terms from Afrikaans and English that have been adopted and become part of isiNdebele lexical stock. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Professional terms

(8a)	unesi	‘nurse’	(< Eng)
	umarhastrada	‘magistrate’	(< Afr: magistraat)
	utoligi	‘interpreter’	(<Afr: tolk)
	umakhenikhi	‘mechanic’	(< Eng)
	uphrofesa	‘professor’	(< Eng/ Afr : professor)
	ilektjhara	‘lecturer’	(< Eng)

Sports

(8b)	itenesi	‘tennis’	(< Eng/Afr: tennis)
	amakarada	‘cards’	(< Eng)
	ibholo	‘ball’	(< Eng)
	ijavelina	‘javeline’	(< Eng)
	itjhezi	‘chess’	(< Eng)
	igalfu	‘golf’	(< Eng)

5.2.8 Birds and animals

Although the amaNdebele have native names for many birds and animals found around their environment, there are a number of birds and animals that do not have names and new Afrikaans and English adopted names are used in isiNdebele. Most of the birds and animals with Afrikaans and English names are those that were originally

foreign to the amaNdebele. Compare the following examples of borrowed names of birds and animals found in isiNdebele in this regard:

Birds

(9a)	iphigogo	‘peacock’	(< Eng)
	irhansi	‘goose’	(< Afr: gans)
	itarantara	‘guinea fowl’	(< Afr: tarentaal)
	iphengwini	‘penguin’	(< Eng)

Animals

(9b)	idonki	‘donkey’	(<Eng/Afr: donkie)
	ipera	‘horse’	(< Afr: perd)
	ikamela	‘camel’	(< Eng/Afr: kameel)
	igorila	‘gorilla’	(<Eng/Afr: gorilla)
	izebhra	‘zebra’	(< Eng: zebra)
	ifarigi	‘pig’	(< Afr: vark)
	ikwiye	‘cow’	(< Afr: koei)

5.2.9 Building material

Traditionally the amaNdebele used simple building styles and building materials such as soil, grass and wood. The arrival of European societies resulted in the gradual change of building styles and the material used among the Ndebele society. A number of Afrikaans and English lexical items in isiNdebele refer to building and material used for building (in the Western context). Compare the following examples in this regard:

(10)	isitina	‘brick’	(< Afr: steen)
	Ivesdere	‘window’	(< Afr: venster)
	idaga	‘roof’	(< Afr: dak)
	ihege	‘gate’	(< Afr: hek)
	isenke	‘sink’	(< Eng)
	iguseni	‘doorframe’	(< Afr: kosyn)
	isipikiri	‘nail’	(< Afr: spyker)

It is interesting to note that more loanwords for building materials are adopted those adopted from Afrikaans than English in isiNdebele vocabulary.

5.2.10 Fruits and vegetables

Although isiNdebele native terms for especially wild fruits and vegetables exist, a number of domesticated and commercial fruits and vegetables bear adopted names from Afrikaans and English. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Vegetables:

(11a)	ikhabitjhi	‘cabbage’	(< Eng)
	ikole	‘cabbage’	(< Afr: kool)
	inaritjisi	‘tangerine’	(< Afr: naartjie)
	itamati	‘tomato’	(< Afr: tamatie)
	amatapana	‘potatoes’	(< Afr: aartappels)
	ikhukhunadi	‘coconut’	(< Eng)

Fruits:

(11b)	ibhanana	(< Eng)	‘banana’
	ilamule	(< Afr: lemoen)	‘orange’
	iperegijhi	(< Afr: perske)	‘peach’
	amahabhula	(< Eng/Afr: appel)	‘apples’
	amadreyibe	(< Afr: duiwe)	‘grapes’

5.2.11 Christian personal names

In onomastic field of studies, scholars such as Koopman (1986), Alford (1988) and Abell (1992) have already observed pointed out that most African Christian names are drawn from the Bible. Skhosana (2002:139) also supports this observation by stating that amongst the amaNdebele:

“...Christianity has played an important role in the choice of names and naming of children at baptism. Most Southern Ndebele Christian names, besides Biblical names, reveal more Afrikaans influence than English, particularly amongst the Nzunza group.”

Particularly for men, amongst the amaNdebele, most Christian personal names are Biblical and Afrikaans coined names than English (Cf. Skhosana 2002:139-142). Compare the following examples in this regard:

Females:

(12a)	uMariya	(<Afr: Maria)	‘Mary’
	uJuliya	(< Eng)	‘Julia’
	uKrestina	(< Afr: Kristina)	‘Christina’
	uMarta	(< Marta)	‘Martha’

Males:

(12b)	uPetrosi	(<Afr: Petrus)	‘Petros, Peter’
	uSolomoni	(< Eng/Afr : Solomon)	‘Solomon’
	uMitjhaga	(< Eng)	‘Meshack’
	u-Arhosi	(< Afr: Agustus)	‘August’
	uSprenkani	(< Afr: sprinkaan)	‘locust’
	uStemere	(<Afr: September)	‘September’

The morphological categorization of isiNdebele loanwords.

Unlike in other South African languages that commonly borrow nouns and verbs from Afrikaans and English, Skhosana (1998:116-118) points out that isiNdebele has borrowed words from no less than five word categories from Afrikaans (i.e. nouns, verbs, conjunctives, adjectives and adverbs) and from two word categories from English (i.e. nouns and verbs). What Skhosana (op.cit:116-118) implies is that isiNdebele, particularly concerning Afrikaans loanwords, has gone beyond the common limit of borrowing strategies amongst the African languages where mainly nouns and verbs are the targets in the borrowing process. In the following paragraphs the various categories of words from which isiNdebele have borrowed from Afrikaans and English are discussed under the following sub-headings:

- (a) Nouns borrowed from Afrikaans and English
- (b) Verbs borrowed from Afrikaans and English
- (c) Other word categories borrowed from Afrikaans only.

5.3.1 Nouns borrowed from Afrikaans and English

When African languages adopt nouns from other non-African languages such as Afrikaans and English do so by means of prefixing the specific noun class prefix and phonologically adapt it to their respective phonological systems. In isiNdebele adopted nouns from Afrikaans and English are channelled into almost all noun classes of this language.

5.3.1.1 Class 1: **um(u)-** and Class 2: **ab(a)-**

Any noun borrowed from Afrikaans or English is adopted into the isiNdebele lexical system by prefixing the noun class prefixes **um(u)-** and **aba-** for Classes 1 and 2 respectively. Compare the following isiNdebele nouns that have been adopted from Afrikaans and English and channelled into Class 1 and Class 2 in this regard:

Class 1:um(u)-		Class 2: aba-	
(13)	um vangeli ‘evangelist’	ab vangeli ‘evangelists’	
	um dikhoni ‘deacon’	ab dikhoni ‘deacons’	
	um pristi ‘priest’	ab pristi ‘priests’	
	um habhadisi ‘baptiser’	ab habhadisi ‘baptisers’	

5.3.1.2 Class 1(a): **u-** and Class 2(a): **abo-**

Classes 1(a) and 2 (a) contain relationship terms in isiNdebele. Afrikaans and English adopted nouns that are channelled into these classes mainly refer to coins, public holidays, professional positions, months of the year, animals, plants and miscellaneous objects. Compare the following examples in this regard:

Class 1(a)	Class 2(a)
Coins:	
(14a) u tiki (<Afr: tiekie)	abo tiki ‘tickey’
u tjheleni (<Eng:)	abo tjheleni ‘shilling’
u peni (<Afr: pennie)	abo peni ‘penny’

Days of a week and public holidays:

(14b)	uSondarha (<Afr: Sondag)	aboSondarha	‘Sunday’
	uNebejara (<Afr: nuwejaar)	aboNebejara	‘New year’
	uKresimusi (<Afr: Kersfees)	aboKresimusi	‘Christmas’

Professional positions:

(14c)	utitjhere (<Eng)	abotitjhere	‘teacher’
	unesi (<Eng)	abonesi	‘nurse’
	udorhoder a (<Eng/Afr: dokter)	abodorhoder a	‘doctor’

It is traditionally not an African societies’ strategy to calculate and measure time according to the 12 calendar months as it is a case in Afrikaans and English. Traditionally, the amaNdebele measured time of the year according to seasons (i.e. **ihlobo** ‘summer’, **itwasahlobo** ‘spring’, **isiruthwana** ‘autumn’ and **ubusika** ‘winter’). The 12 calendar months of the year did not exist in isiNdebele and, instead, using the adopted Afrikaans and English names until mid 1995. These names are channelled into Class 1a and 2a. Compare the following examples in this regard.

	Class 1a		Class 2a
(14d)	uJanabari (<Afr: Januarie)	aboJanabari	‘January’
	uFebherbari (< Afr: Februarie)	aboFeberbari	‘February’
	uMatjhi (<Eng)	aboMatjhi	‘March’
	u-Apreli (<Afr: April)	abo-Apreli	‘April’
	uMeyi (<Afr: Mei)	aboMeyi	‘May’
	uJuni (<Afr: Junie)	aboJuni	‘June’
	uJulayi (<Eng: Julie)	aboJulayi	‘July’
	u-Arhostesi (<Afr: Augustus)	abo-Arhostesi	‘August’
	uSeptemba (<Eng: September)	aboSeptemba	‘September’
	u-Oktoba (<Eng: October)	abo-Oktoba	‘October’
	uNovemba (<Eng: November)	aboNovemba	‘November’
	uDisemba (<Eng: December)	aboDisemba	‘December’

According to the erstwhile Southern Ndebele Language Board minutes (1996) a decision was taken that isiNdebele should have its own names for the twelve months

of the year and the following are the 12 calendar months of isiNdebele names that are also found under Classes 1a and 2a.

Class 1a		Class 2a	
(14e)	uTjhirhweni	aboJanabari	‘January’
	uMhlolanja	aboFeberbari	‘February’
	uNtakana	aboMatjhi	‘March’
	uSihlabantangana	abo-Apreli	‘April’
	uMrhayili	aboMeyi	‘May’
	uMgwengweni	aboJuni	‘June’
	uVelabahlinze	aboJulayi	‘July’
	uRhoboyi	abo-Arhostesi	‘August’
	uKhukhulamungu	aboSeptemba	‘September’
	uSewula	abo-Oktoba	‘October’
	uSinyikhaba)	aboNovemba	‘November’
	uNobayeni	aboDisemba	‘December’

Plants

The following are examples of plant names adopted from Afrikaans and English in isiNdebele vocabulary.

(14f)	usonobhlomu	(<Afr: sonneblom)	abosonobhlomu	‘sunflower’
	ubhlorhomu	(<Afr: bloekom)	abobhlorhomu	‘blue gum tree’
	upopuliri	(<Afr: populier)	abopopuliri	‘poplar tree’

Miscellaneous:

(14g)	uhagana	(<Afr: haakspeld)	abohagana	‘safety pin’
	utelebhula	(<Afr: teelepel)	abotelebhula	‘teaspoon’
	uvasi	(<Afr: wasbak)	abovasi	‘washing basin’
	utolitji	(<Afr: garetolletjie)	abotolitji	‘reel’

5.3.1.3 Class 3: um(u)- and Class 4: imi-

Especially from Afrikaans and to a very limited scale English loanwords channelled into Classes 3 and 4 are not as many as in classes in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard.

(15)	umsorodo	(<Afr: soort)	imisorodo	‘kind’
	umbhede	(<Afr: bed)	imibhede	‘bed’
	umtjhini	(<Eng)	imitjhini	‘machine’
	umbhowudu	(< Afr: bout)	imibhowudu	‘bolt’

5.3.1.4 Class 5: i(li)- and Class 6: ama-/ame-

IsiNdebele Class 5 nouns take their plural form in Class 6 and/or in Class 10 (Skhosana.1998:68-69). In this investigation it is, however, interesting to make an observation that Afrikaans and English loanwords falling under Class 5 in isiNdebele take their plural form in Class 6 only and not in Class 10 or both Classes 6 and 10, as it is the case with some isiNdebele traditional nouns. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(16)	ikhandlela	(<Eng)	amakhandlela	‘candle’
	ibhakede	(<Eng)	amabhakede	‘bucket’
	ikwiye	(<Afr: koei)	amakwiye	‘cow’
	ilebhula	(<Afr: lepel)	amalebhula	‘spoon’
	ibhodlelo	(<Afr: bottel)	amabhodlelo	‘bottle’

5.3.1.5 Class 7: is(i)- and Class 8: iz(i)-, iin-, ii-, iim-

As in all other Nguni languages, isiNdebele class 7 is a singular class of Class 8. Nouns contained in these classes denote instruments, languages, culture, food stuff, parts of the body, diseases, insects, numbers, personal and impersonal as well as miscellaneous nouns in isiNdebele. Compare the following examples in this regard:

(17)	isiporo	(<Afr: spoorweg)	iimporo	‘railway line’
	isipikiri	(<Afr: spyker)	iimpikiri	‘nail’
	isipanere	(<Afr: spaner)	iimpanere	‘spanner’
	isitulo	(<Afr: stoel)	iintulo	‘chair’

isikrufu	(<Afr: skroef)	iinkrufu	‘screw’
isitofu	(<Afr: stoof)	iintofu	‘stove’

It is interesting to note that loanwords when adopted to isiNdebele Class 7 only take the nasalized class prefixes *iin-* and *iim-* in their plural forms (i.e. Class 8). Nouns commencing on consonant /s/ cluster fall under Class 7 which means that, therefore, there is that interplay of phonological and morphological criterion when borrowing such nouns from English and Afrikaans and adapting them to the structure of isiNdebele (Cf. Chapter 3, par 3.4.2.7 and Chapter 4, par. 4.3.2.8).

5.3.1.6 Class 9: i[N] and Class 10: ii-/iin-, iim-

Afrikaans and English loanwords in isiNdebele are found in Class 9 and their plural form commonly found in Class 10. It is interesting to note that nouns borrowed from Afrikaans and English demonstrate a tendency of taking their plural form in Class 10 or both Class 6 and Class 10. Compare the following examples in (18a) and (18b) in this regard:

	Class 9		Class 10	
(18a)	i-ayini	(<Eng)	iin-ayini	‘iron’
	ikhotho	(<Eng)	iinkhotho	‘court’
	i-ondo	(<Afr: oond)	iin-ondo	‘oven’
	iplurhu	(<Afr: ploeg)	iimplurhu	‘plough’

			Class 6 and Class 10	
(18b)	itromula	(<Afr: trommel)	amatromula or iintromula	‘trunk’
	itamati	(<Afr: tamatie)	amatamati or iintamati	‘tomato’
	ibhanga	(<Afr: bank)	amabhanga or iimbhanga	‘bank’
	ibhigiri	(<Afr: bekker)	amabhigiri or iimbhigiri	‘cup’
	itjhimela	(<Eng)	amatjhimela or iintjhimela	‘chimney’
	irula	(< Eng)	amarula or iinrula	‘rulers’

ipensela (< Eng) amapensela or iimpensela ‘pencils’

5.3.1.7 Class 14: **ubu-**

Commonly, Class 14 contains abstract nouns hence, sometimes, referred to as ‘abstract class’. This class takes **ubu-** as a noun class prefix of Class 14 in isiNdebele. Afrikaans and English adoptive nouns channelled into Class 14 are mainly nouns from Classes 1 and 1(a) (i.e. professional names) that also denote ‘the state of being’. Compare the following examples in (19a) and (19b) in this regard:

From Class 1

- (19a) **ubudikhoni** ‘the state of being a deacon’ (<umdikhoni: ‘deacon’)
ubuphristi ‘the state of being a priest’ (<umphristi: ‘priest’)
ubuKrestu ‘the state of being a Christian’ (<umKrestu: ‘Christian’)

From Class 1a

- (19b) **ubutitjhere** ‘the state of being a teacher’ (<utitjhere: ‘teacher’)
ubudorhodera ‘the state of being a doctor’ (<udorhodera: ‘doctor’)
ubuphrofesa ‘the state of being a professor’ (<uphrofesa: ‘professor’)

Note that **uburotho** ‘bread’ (<Afr: brood) has been observed to be the only adoptive in Class 14 which has its plural form **amarotho** ‘kinds of bread’ in Class 6 and this is not the case with the other Class 14 adoptive nouns that do not take the plural forms.

5.3.1.8 Class 15: **uk(u)**

Class 15 is generally a class of nouns derived from verbal stems (i.e. deverbative class). There are Afrikaans and English adopted verbs that are made nouns to denote ‘a process of doing something’ by means of prefixing the noun class prefixing **uku-** of Class 15. Compare the following examples in this regard:

- (20) **ukufreyifa** (<Afr: vryf) (<-freyifa: ‘to rub’ (v))
ukukela (<Afr: skil) (<-kela: ‘to peel’ (v))
ukudansa (<Afr: dans) (<-dansa: ‘to dance’ (v))
ukudribula (<Afr: dribbel) (<-dribula: ‘to dribble’ (v))

5.3.2 Other word categories borrowed from Afrikaans and English

Not only nouns have been adopted into isiNdebele vocabulary from Afrikaans and English lexical stock but also verbs, adjectives, adverbs and conjunctives (Skhosana.1998). While verbs adopted from Afrikaans and English would always suffix a positive terminative vowel –a when Ndebelized, other word groups such as adjectives, relatives and conjunctive do not follow a any pattern in regard to their terminative vowels. Compare the following examples in this regard:

5.3.2.1 Verbs

(21)	-bhraya	(<Afr: braai)	‘fry’ (v)	(Cf. ibhrayi)
	-skrufela	(<Afr: skroef)	‘screw in’ (v)	(Cf. isikrufu)
	-korobha	(<Afr: skrop)	‘scrub’ (v)	(Cf. isikorobho)
	-bhrayibha	(<Eng.)	‘bribe’(v)	(Cf. ibhrayibhu)
	-bhratjha	(<Eng.)	‘brush’ (v)	(Cf. ibhratjhi)
	-dreyina	(<Eng.)	‘drain’(v)	(Cf. idreyini)
	-grisa	(<Eng.)	‘grease’ (v)	(Cf. igrisi)

5.3.2.2 Adjectives

(22)	-rhanorho	(<Afr. genoeg)	‘enough’	(instead of – anele)
	-rhasondo	(<Afr. gesond)	‘healthy’	(instead of – philile)
	-bedere	(< Afr: beter)	‘better’	(instead of – ngcono)

5.3.2.3 Adverbs

(23)	-libesdere	(< Afr: <i>liewers</i>)	‘rather’	(instead of ngcono)
	-jeyisi	(< Afr: <i>juis</i>)	‘exactly’	(instead of – mbala)
	-federe	(<Afr: <i>verder</i>)	‘furthermore’	(instead of – okhunye)
	-lada	(<Afr: <i>laat</i>)	‘late’	(instead of ngemva kwesikathi)

5.3.2.4 Conjunctive(s)

(24)	mara (< Afr: <i>maar</i>)	‘but’	(instead of kodwana)
	dereveyi (< Afr: <i>terwyl</i>)	‘while’	(instead of (nje)ngombana/ ngesimanga/sokuthi... /ngesikhathi.../nagade)
	solangana (< Afr: <i>so lank</i>)	‘as long as’	(instead of (nje)ngombana)
	ene (< Eng)	‘and’	(instead of begodu)

It is important to also point out that adverbs, adjectives and conjunctives are only borrowed from Afrikaans unlike nouns and verbs that are from both Afrikaans and English. Afrikaans loanwords such as those shown in the examples (22)-(24) above confirm what Hock and Joseph (1996:272) points out that prestige play a major role in borrowing.

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSION

This study has attempted to assess the changes that have taken place in the isiNdebele language because of the influence of Afrikaans and English. According to the study it is evident enough that the influence of these languages came as a result of contact with the speakers of Afrikaans and English. IsiNdebele has borrowed more extensively from Afrikaans than English and this shows that the Ndebele speaking communities were in close contact with the Afrikaans speaking people.

With regards to the vowels of Afrikaans and English, though they are more numerous than the Ndebele vowels they are not the same as the Ndebele vowels but do conform to the vowel system of isiNdebele when adopted in isiNdebele.

The adaptation of Afrikaans and English words also occurs on the phonological level. The study has shown that most of the words adopted from Afrikaans and English have been adapted to the sound system of isiNdebele. Phonological changes do occur to the syllable structure of adopted words. Those words with a syllable structure that is not acceptable in the isiNdebele language undergo some form of modification in order to be accepted. Adjustment occurs in words which end with a consonant. Words with consonant clusters are often adjusted by means of the insertion of a vowel between the clusters.

IsiNdebele does not allow words to end with a consonant, except in the case of ideophones. In such cases a vowel can be added to the final consonant. The study has discovered that there are eight (8) Afrikaans single phonemes that do not change in isiNdebele, whereas there are six (6) Afrikaans single phonemes that do undergo phonological change in isiNdebele. With regard to Afrikaans cluster phonemes, there are seven (7) cluster phonemes that are not syllabified by vowel insertion in isiNdebele. There are twelve (12) Afrikaans cluster phonemes that are syllabified by vowel insertion in isiNdebele.

Adopted words in isiNdebele have also undergone some morphological adjustment. The Afrikaans and English grammatical system is different from that of isiNdebele. Adopted nouns from these languages must have prefixes when integrated into the isiNdebele grammatical system. Regarding the semantic level, the adopted words from both Afrikaans and English have adapted semantically to isiNdebele in different ways. Most of the words have been adapted without any change in meaning. Unlike other sister languages which have borrowed mainly nouns and verbs, isiNdebele has gone beyond and also borrowed word categories such as conjunctives, adjectives and adverbs, especially from Afrikaans.

SUMMARY

In this study words adopted into isiNdebele have been investigated. The study has investigated how Afrikaans and English words are adopted into the isiNdebele lexical system.

In the first chapter the focus is on the current geographical spread and concentration of the isiNdebele speaking population in South Africa, while a survey of the rendition of the Afrikaans and English vowel systems in isiNdebele loan words is dealt with in Chapter two. Interestingly, the various Afrikaans and English vowels are bound to undergo change and get channelled to the nearest isiNdebele vowel counterpart. For instance, the Afrikaans vowel phonemes $i[\theta]$ and $[\epsilon]$ are rendered as $e[e]$, e.g: *skip* [skəp] ‘boat’ and *hek* [‘hεk] ‘gate’ are rendered as *isikepe* [isik’εp’ε] and *ihege* [ihεg ε] in isiNdebele. This also applies to Afrikaans and English diphthong phonemes that commonly either change to their nearest isiNdebele vowel counterpart or semi-vowel, or semi-vowel and a vowel. Afrikaans and English diphthongs $ei[\theta I]$ and $ai[aI]$, respectively, are rendered as [eyi] and [ayi] in isiNdebele loan words, e.g *skei* [skθI] *isikeyi* (sejogi)’skey’ [isik’εji]; *pie* [paI] *iphayi* [iphaji].

The adaptation of Afrikaans and English consonant phonemes is dealt with in Chapter three and four, respectively. A number of interesting findings have been observed in this chapter. Notably, not all Afrikaans and English consonant phonemes conform to the isiNdebele consonant system. Some of the Afrikaans and English consonant clusters, for instance, are adopted as is, meaning that they do not conform to the CVCV syllable structure of isiNdebele as is the case in most African languages. For instance, Afr: /dr/ and English /fl/ consonant clusters are rendered as /dr/ and /fl/ in isiNdebele, e.g.: Afr: draad [dra:t] and English fridge [frɪdʒ] are rendered as *idrada* [idrada] and *ifriji* [ifridʒi] respectively in isiNdebele. On the other hand, most Afrikaans and English consonant phonemes that do not exist in isiNdebele, just like in the case of the vowel system, are channelled to the nearest isiNdebele consonant phoneme. Afrikaans /kl/ is rendered as /tl/ in isiNdebele, e.g. Afr. *klam* [‘klam] is *tlamu* [t4’amu] and English /chr/ is rendered as /khr/ in isiNdebele, e.g chromosome [‘krəʊməʃəʊm] is *ikhromozomu* [ikhrɔmɔzɔmu]. Furthermore, it has been observed

that most Afrikaans loaned words with the phoneme clusters /sk/; /sl/; /sm/; /sn/; /sp/; /st(r)/; and /sw/ are mostly contained in words falling under Class 7 nouns in isiNdebele.

Chapter five is the concluding chapter that investigates the semantic and morphological aspects of Afrikaans and English loaned words in isiNdebele. The study has revealed that a larger amount of isiNdebele vocabulary comes from Afrikaans than from English. Nouns borrowed from Afrikaans are found in almost all isiNdebele noun classes. In addition to borrowing lexical items from the Afrikaans and English word categories 'noun' and 'verb', isiNdebele has borrowed lexical items from three more word categories in Afrikaans namely from the categories 'adjective', 'adverb' and conjunctives.

Key Terms

Loan/borrowing

Morphology

Phonology

Adaptation

Adoption

Semantics

Phoneme

Cluster

Orthographical

Standardization

OPSOMMING

In hierdie studie word woorde wat in Ndebele opgeneem is ondersoek. Die studie kyk spesifiek na hoe Afrikaanse en Engelse woorde in die Ndebele leksikale sisteem opgeneem word.

In die eerste hoofstuk is die fokus op die huidige geografiese verspreiding en konsentrasie van die Ndebele-sprekende gemeenskap in Suid-Afrika, terwyl die weergawe van die Afrikaanse en Engelse vokaalsisteme in Ndebele-leenwoorde in die tweede hoofstuk aangeraak word. Dit is interessant dat die Afrikaanse en Engelse vokale onvermydelik verandering ondergaan en in die naaste artikulatoriese ekwivalente Ndebele-vokaal verander word. Byvoorbeeld, die Afrikaanse vokaalfoneme i [i] en e [e] word as e [e] weergegee: *skip* [skəp] en *hek* [hɛk] word *isikepe* [isik'ɛp'ɛ] en *ihege* [ihɛg'ɛ] in Ndebele. Dit geld ook die Afrikaanse en Engelse diftongfoneme wat meerendeels na die naaste ekwivalente Ndebele-vokaal verander word, of in 'n semivokaal, of in 'n semivokaal en 'n vokaal. Die Afrikaanse en Engelse diftonge ei[eɪ] en ai[aɪ] word onderskeidelik [eyi] en [ayi] in Ndebele leenwoorde, byvoorbeeld skei [skəɪ] isikeyi [isik'ɛji] en *pie* [paɪ] iphayi [iphaji].

Die wysiging van Afrikaanse en Engelse konsonantfoneme word onderskeidelik in hoofstukke drie en vier behandel. 'n Aantal interessante bevindings is gemaak. Dit is opvallend dat nie alle Afrikaanse en Engelse konsonantfoneme verander om by die Ndebelekonsonantsisteem aan te pas nie. Sommige konsonantklusters word in hulle bestaande vorm oorgeneem en is dus nie in ooreenstemming met die Ndebele KVKV-sillabestruktuur soos wat in die meeste Afrikatale die geval is nie. Byvoorbeeld, Afrikaanse /dr/- en Engelse /fl/-konsonantklusters word as /dr/ en /fl/ in Ndebele weergegee: **draad** [dra:t] en **fridge** [frɪdʒ] word in Ndebele onderskeidelik weergegee as **idrada** [idɾaɖa] en **ifriji** [ifriɖʒi]. Aan die ander kant word die meeste Afrikaanse en Engelse konsonantfoneme wat nie in Ndebele bestaan nie, net soos in die geval van die vokaalsisteem, in die naaste ekwivalente Ndebele konsonantfoneem verander. Die Afrikaanse /kl/ word /tl/ in Ndebele en die Engelse /chr/ word /khr/ in Ndebele. **Klam** ['klam] word in Ndebele weergegee as **tlamu** [tɬ'amu] en **chromosome**

[*kr̥ʊm̥ə,s̥ʊm*] as *ikhronozomu* [*ikh̥r̥ʊm̥ʊz̥ʊmu*]. Daar is verder opgemerk dat die meeste leenwoorde uit Afrikaans met die konsonantklusters /sk/, /sl/, /sm/, /sn/, /sp/, /st(r)/ en /sw/ in naamwoordklas 7 in Ndebele opgeneem is.

Hoofstuk vyf is die slothoofstuk wat die semantiese en morfologiese aspekte van Afrikaanse en Engelse leenwoorde in Ndebele ondersoek. Die studie bring aan die lig dat 'n groter hoeveelheid Ndebele-woorde aan Afrikaans as aan Engels ontleen is. Naamwoorde wat uit Afrikaans geleen is, kom in feitlik alle Ndebele-naamwoordklasse voor. Benewens die leen van leksikale items uit die Afrikaanse en Engelse woordkategorieë 'naamwoord' en 'werkwoord', het isiNdebele leksikale items uit drie verdere Afrikaanse woordkategorieë geleen, naamlik die kategorieë 'adjektief', 'bywoord' en 'voegwoord'.

Sleutel terme

Ontlening

Morfologie

Fonologie

Aanpassing

Oorname

Semantiek

Foneem

Kluster

Ortografie

Standaardisering

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