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PRETESTING

QUESTIONNAIRE

APPENDIX A

RESEARCH PROJECT

1. PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT

Your co-operation in this questionnaire is very important. Please be totally honest in your response. Your contribution will help to review and improve the state of English language teaching in Black schools in South Africa.

2. CONFIDENTIALITY

The information that you provide will be treated confidentially. Therefore your name or the name of your institution should not appear on the questionnaire. The findings of the research will be processed and they will form the basis of a research publication and a formal thesis for the Doctor's degree in English language teaching.

3. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each question and statement carefully before you answer it. A number of possible answers are provided; select the answer you feel best fits your situation and then circle the appropriate code.

EXAMPLE

Which language do you think is best in South Africa

Mother tongue	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3
Other	4

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Q01	<input type="checkbox"/>

PART 1: BIOGRAPHICAL AND EDUCATIONAL DATA

- Respondent Number:
- Date of completion:
- What is your sex?

Male	1
Female	2

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Q01	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q02	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q03	<input type="checkbox"/>



4. What is your age in years?

18 - 25	1
26 - 36	2
37 - 46	3
Over 47	4

5. What is your highest professional qualification?

PTC	1
SEC	2
SED	3
STD	4
UED	5
Other	6

6. What is your highest academic qualification?

Standard 8	1
Standard 10	2
BA	3
Bachelor's degree +	4
Master's degree +	5
Doctor's degree +	6

7. Where is your school or institution situated?

Soweto	1
Atteridgeville	2
Selborne Circuit	3
Other	4

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Q04

Q05

Q06

Q07



8. What is your profession?

High School student	1
College student	2
Primary school teacher	3
Secondary school teacher	4
Primary school principal	5
Secondary school principal	6
Senior DET official	7
Other	8

PART 2

9. Which language(s) do you speak at home?

Mother tongue	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3
Mother tongue and English	4
More than two languages	5

10. The language I prefer to use when speaking to my doctor is:

English	1
Afrikaans	2
An African language	3

11. I think I speak South African Black English.

Agree	1
Disagree	2
Uncertain	3

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Q08

Q09

Q10

Q11



12. People in South Africa do not speak British Standard English.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

13. More teaching time should be allotted to the teaching of African languages in schools.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

14. Which language(s) do you think should become National Language(s) in the New South Africa?

Afrikaans	1
English	2
Any of the African languages	4
All the South African languages	5

15. If you speak good English it means that you are educated.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Q12

Q13

Q14

Q15



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

16. I am able to express myself better in:

Mother tongue	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3
Other	4

Q16

17. Before I speak English I first of all have to think in my mother tongue.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q17

18. I think I speak British Standard English.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q18

19. Do you think English, Afrikaans and African languages should be made equal in the future?

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q19



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

20. Which language(s) should be used as a medium of instruction at secondary and tertiary levels?

An African language	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3

Q20

21. Which English do you think is "good English"?

British Standard English	1
American English	2
South African Black English	3
South African Standard English	4

Q21

22. I wish I could speak English like the English.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q22

23. I enjoy having discussions with Blacks who speak English the African way.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q23



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

24. African languages must be developed so that they can be used broadly in the future.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q24

25. I sometimes find it difficult to pronounce certain English words.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q25

26. Which English do you think you speak?

South African Black English	1
South African Standard English	2
British Standard English	3
Other	4

Q26

27. I think English in African schools should be taught by:

English mother tongue speakers	1
Black English teachers	2
Anyone who is qualified to teach English	3
All the above	4

Q27



28. White people in South Africa should learn at least one African language.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

29. Which radio or television channel(s) do you prefer?

English channel	1
African channel	2
Afrikaans channel	3
All the above	4

30. I have difficulty pronouncing some English vowels.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

31. English is a unifying language in South Africa.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Q28

Q29

Q30

Q31



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

32. It is funny to speak English with an African flavour.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q32

33. By just listening to a taped voice, I can immediately guess that person's home language group.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q33

34. English in Black schools should be used as a medium of instruction from:

Sub A	1
Sub B	2
Standard I	3
Standard II	4
Higher	5
Uncertain	6

Q34

35. African schools should use:

British Standard English	1
American English	2
South African Black English	3
South African Standard English	4

Q35



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

36. English should be maintained as an official language in the future.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q36

37. I think my English is quite good.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q37

38. I would be very pleased if my mother tongue could be used at my workplace.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q38

39. Have you ever hear of South African Black English?

No	1
Yes	2

Q39



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

40. I think it is a waste of time teaching African languages in Black schools.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q40

41. Radio Metro and Radio Bop presenters speak very good English.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q41

42. My favourite newspaper is:

Sowetan	1
Star	2
Citizen	3
Other	4

Q42

43. If your voice is taped on a cassette, would you prefer to be identified as an African person speaking English or as an English mother tongue speaker?

As an English mother tongue speaker	1
As an African person speaking English	2

Q43



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

44. All languages must be given equal status in the New South Africa.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q44

45. Do you think the issues addressed in the questionnaire are important?

Uncertain	1
Yes	2
No	3

Q45

46. What do you think about the length of this questionnaire?

Too long	1
Just the right length	2
Too short	3
Uncertain	4

Q46

47. Indicate below any other additions you would like to make to the questionnaire. Any recommendations will be highly appreciated.

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Thank you very much for your participation and contribution in this study.

APPENDIX B

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

RESEARCH PROJECT

1. PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT

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The information that you provide will be treated confidentially. Therefore your name or the name of your institution should not appear on the questionnaire. The findings of the research will be processed and they will form the basis of a research publication and a formal thesis for the Doctor's degree in English language teaching.

3. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each question and statement carefully before you answer it. A number of possible answers are provided; select the answer you feel best fits your situation and then circle the appropriate code. (At times you may agree with more than one answer, in this case you can circle more than one code).

EXAMPLE

English	1
Afrikaans	2
Other	3

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Q01	<input type="checkbox"/>

PART 1: BIOGRAPHICAL AND EDUCATIONAL DATA

1. Respondent Number:
2. Date of completion:
3. What is your sex?

Male	1
Female	2

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Q01	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q02	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q03	<input type="checkbox"/>



4. What is your age in years?

18 - 25	1
26 - 36	2
37 - 46	3
Over 47	4

5. What is your highest professional qualification?

Primary Teachers Certificate	1
Secondary Education Certificate	2
Secondary Education Diploma	3
Secondary Teachers Diploma	4
Other	5

6. What is your highest academic qualification?

Standard 8	1
Standard 10	2
BA	3
Bachelor's degree +	4
Master's degree +	5
Doctor's degree +	6

7. Where is your school or institution situated?

Johannesburg	1
Pretoria	2
Northern Transvaal	3
Other	4

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Q04

Q05

Q06

Q07



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8. What is your profession?

High School student	1
College student	2
Primary school teacher	3
Secondary school teacher	4
Primary school principal	5
Secondary school principal	6
Senior DET official	7
Other	8

Q08

PART 2

9. Which language(s) do you speak at home?

A Black African language	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3
A Black African language and English	4
More than two languages	5

Q09

10. The language I prefer to use when speaking to my doctor is:

English	1
Afrikaans	2
An African language	3

Q10

11a Have you ever heard of South African Black English?

Yes	1
No	2

Q11



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11b I think I speak South African Black English.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

12. What do you think "Standard English" means? Please define.

.....
.....

Q12

13a More teaching time should be allotted to the teaching of African languages in schools.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q13

13b Please give reasons for your answer:

.....
.....

14. If you speak good English it means that you are educated.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	4
Uncertain	5

Q14

15. I am able to express myself better in:

Mother tongue	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3
Other	4

Q15



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16. As a child, did you speak English outside the classroom?

Before you were 12 years of age	1
When you were between 12 and 18 years of age	2
Not sure	3

Q16

17. Except for the period of childhood referred to in the previous question, have you had any other experience of using English because of the environment in which you lived or worked?

Where you lived	1
Where you worked	2
Not sure	3

Q17

18. What is the highest educational qualification you have in English?

None	1
Primary school	2
Junior Certificate	3
Senior Certificate	4
University/College	5

Q18

19. At what stage in your life did you obtain a good knowledge of English?

Never	1
Pre-school	2
In Primary school	3
In High school	4
After leaving school	5

Q19



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20. Do you read more English books?
For relaxation

Always	1
Sometimes	2
Not at all	3

Q20

21. Do you at times feel that you can express yourself better in English than in vernacular?

Yes, often	1
Yes, occasionally	2
No, never	3

Q21

22. If you find that you can express yourself better in English, when does it occur?

When explaining something in connection with your work	1
When you are very excited or angry	2
When you are with your friends	3

Q22

Give any other area of language use in which you prefer to use English.

.....

.....

- 23a In your opinion, what should the official language of South Africa be?

English and Afrikaans	1
English only	2
Afrikaans only	3
English and one Black African language	4
Afrikaans and one Black African language	5
Some other possibility	6
All eleven major languages	7

Q23



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23b Give reasons for your choice

.....
.....

24. If you do not often have the chance to speak English, do you think that given more opportunity to do so, you would make greater use of English?

Not applicable, I already speak it often	1
Yes, I would like to speak it more often	2
No, I don't think I would really try to speak it more often	3

Q24

25. Do you ever feel you would like to improve?

Your English pronunciation	1
Your grammar	2
Vocabulary	3
No aspect of English	4

Q25

26. Do you think that you place yourself at a disadvantage if you do not speak English?

Yes, definitely	1
Yes, it could be	2
No, not really	3
No, definitely not	4

Q26

27. Do you only want to be able to read and understand written English, or do you also want to speak it well?

Only to read it well	1
To write it well	2
To speak it well	3
All the above	4

Q27



28a Do you think it is a good idea for black families to

Send their children to English medium schools	1
Send their children to English and Afrikaans schools (dual medium)	2
Send their children to English, Afrikaans and Black schools	3

28b Give reasons for your answer:

.....
.....

29. Before I speak English I first of all have to think in my mother tongue.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

30. I think I speak standard English.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

31a Do you think it right that English, Afrikaans and African languages have been made equal?

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

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Q28

Q29

Q30

Q31



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31b Why do you think so?

.....
.....

32. Which language(s) should be used as a medium of instruction

(a) at primary level?

An African language	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3

Q32

32. (b) at secondary level?

An African language	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3

Q33

32. (c) at tertiary level?

An African language	1
English	2
Afrikaans	3

Q34

33. Should any of the languages in 32 be replaced by another language at a later stage?

Yes	1
No	2

Q35

If yes, which language and at which stage?

.....
.....



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34. Which English do you think is "good English"?

British Standard English	1
American Standard English	2
South African Black English	3
South African English	4

Q36

35. I enjoy having discussions with Blacks who speak English the African way.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q37

What in your opinion, are the features of the African way?

.....

36. African languages must be developed so that they can be used broadly in the future.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q38

37. I sometimes find it difficult to pronounce certain English words.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q39



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38. Which English do you think you speak?

South African Black English	1
South African English	2
British Standard English	3
Other	4

Q40

39a I think English in African schools should be taught by:

English mother tongue speakers	1
Black English teachers	2
Anyone who is qualified to teach English	3
All the above	4

Q41

39b Why do you think so?

.....

40. White people in South Africa should learn at least one African language.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q42

41. Which radio or television channel(s) do you prefer?

English channel	1
African channel	2
Afrikaans channel	3
All the above	4

Q43

42. I have difficulty pronouncing some English vowels.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Give examples of words in which you find the vowel sounds difficult.

.....

43. English is a unifying language in South Africa.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

44. It is peculiar to speak English with an African flavour.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

45. By just listening to a taped voice, I can immediately guess that person's home language group.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

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Q44

Q45

Q46

Q47

46a English in Black schools should be used as a medium of instruction from:

Sub A	1
Sub B	2
Standard I	3
Standard II	4
Higher	5
Uncertain	6

b Why do you think so?

.....

47. The kind of English taught in the class in African schools should be:

British Standard English	1
American Standard English	2
South African Black English	3
South African English	4

48. English should be maintained as an official language in the future.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

49. I think my english is quite good.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

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Q48

Q49

Q50

Q51



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50. I would be very pleased if my mother tongue could be used at my workplace.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q52

51. We need more English in-service training, especially in Black schools.

Agree	1
Not sure	2
Disagree	3

Q53

52. I think it is a waste of time teaching African languages in Black schools.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q54

53. Radio Metro and Radio Bop presenters speak very good English.

Fully agree	1
Agree	2
Disagree	3
Uncertain	4

Q55

54. My favourite newspaper is:

Sowetan	1
Star	2
Citizen	3
Other	4

Q56



55. If your voice is taped on a cassette, would you prefer to be identified as an African person speaking English or as an English mother tongue speaker?

As an English mother tongue speaker	1
As an African person speaking English	2

56. Do you think the issues addressed in the questionnaire are important?.

Uncertain	1
Yes	2
No	3

57a What do you think about the length of this questionnaire?

It is very long	1
It is not so long	2
It is OK	3
Uncertain	4

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Q57

Q58

Q59

57b Indicate below any other additions you would like to make to this questionnaire. Any recommendations will be highly appreciated.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Thank you very much for your participation and contribution in this study.



APPENDIX C

TABLE 6: RESULTS

Table 6.1: Status of English in South Africa		Frequency	Scores %
Q10. The language I prefer to use when speaking to my doctor:			
1. English			92,4
2. Afrikaans			0
3. Other			7,6
		65	100

		Frequency	Scores %
Q15. I am able to express myself better in:			
1. Vernacular			55,9
2. English			42,4
3. Afrikaans			0
4. Other			1,7
		59	100

		Frequency	Scores %
Q20. Do you read more English books for relaxation?			
1. Always			32,8
2. Sometimes			65,6
3. Not at all			1,6
		64	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q43. English is a unifying language in South Africa.		
1. Agree		87
2. Disagree		4,8
3. Uncertain		8,2
	62	100

Table 6.2: The status of black languages

	Frequency	Scores %
Q9. Which language do you speak at home?		
1. Black languages		56,9
2. English		7,7
3. Afrikaans		1,6
4. Vernacular and English		23
5. More than two languages		10,8
	65	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q13. More teaching time should be allotted to the teaching of black languages		
1. Agree		52,5
2. Disagree		36
3. Uncertain		11,5
	61	100



	Frequency	Scores %
Q15. I am able to express myself better in:		
1. Vernacular		55,9
2. English		42,4
3. Afrikaans		0
4. Other		1,7
	59	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q29. Before I speak English, I first of all have to think in my mother tongue:		
1. Agree		28,4
2. Disagree		65
3. Uncertain		6,6
	60	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q50. I would be very pleased if my mother tongue could be used at my workplace:		
1. Agree		42,6
2. Disagree		40,9
3. Uncertain		16,5
	61	100



	Frequency	Scores %
Q52. I think it is a waste of time teaching vernaculars in Black schools:		
1. Agree		23,4
2. Disagree		62,6
3. Uncertain		14,0
	64	100

Table 63: English in Education

	Frequency	Scores %
Q32:(a) Which language should be used as a medium of instruction at primary level?		
1. Vernacular		13,5
2. English		86,5
3. Afrikaans		0
	52	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q32:(b) at secondary level?		
1. Vernacular		1,7
2. English		98,3
3. Afrikaans		0
	57	100



	Frequency	Scores %
Q32:(c) at tertiary level?		
1. Vernacular		0
2. English		96,5
3. Afrikaans		3,5
	58	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q39 I think English in Afrikaans schools should be taught by:		
1. English mother tongue speakers		15,0
2. Black English teachers		3,4
3. Anyone qualified to teach English		61,6
4. All the above		20
	60	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q46: English in Black schools should be used as a medium of instruction from:		
1. Sub A		65,0
2. Sub B		6,6
3. Standard I		13,4
4. Standard II		8,4
5. Higher		5,0
6. Uncertain		1,6
	60	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q47: The kind of English taught in the class in African schools should be:		
1. British Standard English		17,3
2. American Standard English		8,7
3. South African Black English		12,0
4. South African English		62,0
	58	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q51. We need more English in-service training, especially in Black schools:		
1. Agree		81,6
2. Disagree		7,7
3. Uncertain		10,7
	65	100

Table 6.4: The need for more English skills

	Frequency	Scores %
Q24: If you do not have the chance to speak English, do you think that given more opportunity to do so, you would make greater use of English?		
1. Not applicable, I already speak it often		29,5
2. Yes, I would like to speak it more often		67,2
3. No, I don't think I would really try to speak it more often		3,3
	61	100



	Frequency	Scores %
Q25: Do you ever feel you would like to improve:		
1. Your English pronunciation		26,1
2. Your grammar		13,1
3. Your vocabulary		52,2
4. No aspect of English		8,6
	46	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q27: Do you only want to be able to read and understand written English or do you also want to speak it well?		
1. Only to read it well		0
2. To write it well		0
3. To speak it well		8,5
4. All the above		91,5
	59	100

	Frequency	Scores %
Q49. I think my English is quite good:		
1. Agree		62,9
2. Disagree		20,9
3. Uncertain		16,2
	62	100



Table 6.5: English as an official language

	Frequency	Scores %
Q23. In your opinion, what should the official language of South Africa be?		
1. English and Afrikaans		6,7
2. English only		30,6
3. Afrikaans only		0
4. english and one vernacular		30,6
5. Afrikaans and one vernacular		0
6. Some other possibility		5,0
7. All eleven major languages		17,1
	59	100