

William Bascom, Director
Museum of Anthropology
University of California
Berkeley 4, California

MODERN GRAMMAR
OF
YORUBA LANGUAGE

BY
E. A. Akintan,
PRINCIPAL
LAGOS PUBLIC SCHOOL

AUTHOR OF
TRAINING IN ENGLISH,
FIRST & SECOND STEPS IN

YORUBA
COMPOSITION



PREFACE.

As every language has its own Grammar, undoubtedly, Yoruba Language has its own.

For this reason the present Edition deals with the Grammar and Composition of the Language.

There is a tendency of joining two or three parts of speech together, where they need not be joined, in most cases by those who know little or nothing of the grammar of the language; even there are many who did not know that Yoruba has Grammar of its own; to this class of people, this little book comes as a guide in the way of writing the language since Grammar is a "Key" to the language.

That this book may be a "Guide" to many aspiring students of Yoruba Language is the wish of the author.

Note:- In this edition, the system of doubling the vowel is adopted as against the use of circumflex.

E. A. Akintan,
Principal

Lagos Public School.

September, 1944.

Lagos.

Modern Grammar & Composition of Yoruba Language.

INTRODUCTION.

The Grammar of Yoruba Language may be divided into 4 parts They are as follows :-

1 Etymology which treats about the classes of words with reference to the sort of work which they do.

2 Orthography which treats about the letters and the correct spelling of the words having regard to the accents.

3 Syntax which treats about the principles that must be observed in order that the sentences might be grammatically correct

4 Prosody which treats about versification having regard to metres, poems, odes, funeral dirges etc. etc.

CONTENTS

Part I

Section		Page
1.	Etymology - Parts of Speech.	3.
"	2. Verb	3.
"	3. Pronoun	4.
"	4. Noun	4.
"	5. Adjective	6.
"	6. Pronominal Adjective	7.
"	7. Adverb	7.
"	8. " contd.	8.
"	9. Preposition	9.
"	10. Conjunction	10.
"	11. Interjection	11.
"	12. Model Parsing A.	12.

Part II

Section	1. Forms of Verbs	" 13.
"	2. Kinds of Verbs	" 14.
"	3. Moods	" 15.
"	4. Voice	" 17.
"	5. Tenses	" 17.
"	6. Model Parsing B.	" 21.
"	7. Kinds of Pronouns	" 21.
"	8. Genders of "	" 24.
"	9. Numbers "	" 25.
"	10. Persons of Pronouns	" 27.
"	11. Cases of "	" 27.
"	12. Model Parsing C.	" 28.
"	13. Conjugation of Verbs	" 29.
"	14. Kinds of Nouns	" 33.
"	15. Genders of Nouns	" 34.
"	16. Numbers of Nouns	" 35.
"	17. Cases of Nouns	" 36.
"	18. Persons of Nouns	" 37.
"	18. Model Parsing D.	" 38.

Section		Page
„ 19.	Other Kinds of Pronouns „	39.
„ 20.	Kinds of Adjectives „	40.
„ 21.	Degrees of Comparison „	41.
„ 22.	Kinds of Adverbs „	42.
„ 23.	Orthography „	44.
„ 24.	Analysis „	47. <
„ 25.	Rules of Syntax „	49.
„ 26.	Prosody „	53.

Errata.

Page 8, Section 8, read “euphonic” instead of “enphonic”

Page 17, Section 4, No. 18, read “active voice” instead of “transitive verbs”

Page 39, Section 9, No. 89, (9) read “Interrogative” instead of “Introogative”

Page 40, Section 20, No. 91, read “(n) Ordinal Numeral Adjective” before No. (4)

Page 46, Section 23, No. 124, read “identity” instead of “indentity.”