A Trilingual Glossary of English-French-Igbo Automobile Terms

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Abstract: *Each field of human endeavour has its peculiar mode of expression. The peculiarity of expression and communication distinguishes one field from the other. Based on the above, this study sets out to assemble or create the Igbo equivalents of the English-French automobile terms. The source language data used in this study were collected from various textbooks and internet. The procedure adopted in deriving the target language (TL) terms involves the direct and indirect methods of term creation and translation. Oral interviews were also conducted from two mechanic villages visited. The result of this study will be of immense benefit to the development of science and technology, locally. Artisans and apprentices in auto-mechanics will find it very easy to comprehend what they are being taught. Researchers in terminology will find this work very helpful. The work will equally be of great assistance to the enrichment of Igbo meta language.*

Keywords: *Igbo language, trilingual, terminology, term creation, automobile.*

I.   Introduction

Language is a relevant asset and tool handed over inter-generationally for developing human capital and sustaining self-reliance. The language of a people is a fundamental aspect of their identity, by which they are not only known but can express themselves or communicate with one another. Indigenous languages and cultures are essential tools for the development of human capital and the attainment of self-reliance which in turn power other developmental needs. There is no gainsaying the fact that there has been a misplacement of priorities in the past, applying foreign solutions to local problems, as a result of neglecting indigenous languages, cultural values and orientation which are the spring boards for individual and collective empowerment. Man has evolved the ability to invent or create and recreate because he has language and culture to empower him.

Sharing this view, Anyanwụ (2008:123) says,
Man's greatest power is the power of words. By virtue of this power, he is capable
of creating meaning and value, of transforming the world and himself, and of giving meaningful direction to material events. What the Europeans regard as magic in a derogatory sense (incantation, interdiction) is nothing but the art of speech, the art of naming and controlling things, hence the principle of creativity. Man's greatest power is indeed the power of words or the power of language. One needs to pause and imagine what will happen if everyone, man, woman ceases to speak or communicate.
Okorie (2008:123) is of the view that,
"as a people's experience grows, so does their language. Language is part of culture and functions to transmit culture. A word means what we want it to mean in a particular language. Once an object or even a person is named, it settles down into the culture and comes to mean that object or person and all that the object or person stands for in that particular culture".
According to Anyanwu (1983:51),
Through the power of words (language), we have control over things, men and even gods. Word (language) has the power to define and to compel. As a result, it is the vehicle of order, the principle of creativity and destruction. Word, for the African, has therefore divine qualities. Name-giving and law-giving are related means of creating meaning, order and value.

II.   Terminology and term

The need to append names to things or coin names for objects, to use names to identify objects, systems, organisms, skills, mechanism, etc, is very essential and this has led to the study of terminology as a discipline. Terms are words and compound words or multi-word expressions that in specific contexts are given specific meanings - these may deviate from the meanings the same words have in other contexts and in everyday language. Terminology is a general word for the group of specialized words or meanings relating to a particular field. It is also the study of such terms and their use. Terminology is a discipline that systematically studies the labelling or designating of concepts particular to one or more subject fields or domains of human activity. It does this through the research and analysis of terms, documenting and promoting consistent usage. Terminology is the science of studying the structure, formation, development, usage and management of terminologies. It is a set of designations belonging to one special language.

Anyaehie (1997:1) defines terminology as "a science, a practice, and a product. As a science, it has a specific object of study. As a product, it has its motivation, its control and its methodology. As a practice, it has a tangible form with perceptible characteristics". Eke and Ugoji (1999:25) say that "the study of terms is essential to the translator because it will equip him to avoid the temptation of looking at words from their surface look". Okeke (1993:262) says that "a translator must as a matter of necessity rely on his own ingenuity and imaginativeness in order to originate and generate terms and equivalence in the mother-tongue (no matter how tentatively they can be)".

The above suggests that the translator has the power to create terms in his target language if there are none readily available. There is, therefore, a strong and unbroken relationship existing between these tripartite assets called language, terminology and term creation.
Ohaike (2010:46) says that 'terminology serves the purpose of precisely defining things, objects, etc. which facilitate the work of the translator'. Dubuc (1978) sees 'terminology' as 'the approach that enables one to group and to structure a collection of terms peculiar to a technique or a discipline'. Alain Rey, on his part, defines terminology as "a group of technical terms associated with science or art and the ideas represented by them".
We can conclude from the above, that terminology tends to identify and clarify a term for effective communication.

III.   Technology and indigenous language

In developed countries of the world, teachers teach science, technology and other subjects to their pupils and students in their indigenous language or mother-tongue. The case is different in most third world countries as mother-tongue is relegated to the background and seen as language of the illiterate rural dwellers. It has been proved beyond every reasonable doubt that pupils learn better in their mother-tongue or language of their immediate community. Okafor (1991) in Owolabi and Makinde (2008:229) observed that most African countries who use English (a second language) as a medium of instruction in their schools are increasingly becoming aware of the effect of language deficiency on the performance of their students in science and mathematics. Otuka (1991:11) said, "a large proportion of the pupils listening to science, technology and mathematics lessons given in a non-mother-tongue would miss a great deal of the lesson done due to difficulty of understanding the language rather than the scientific content". Olarewaju (1991:1) stressed the fact that students achieved more in science when taught in their indigenous language or language of the immediate environment.

A trilingual glossary of English/French/Igbo terms is necessary for many reasons. There are international Igbo businessmen who deal with francophone partners. They need the French version of the terminologies. Both Igbo and French languages are now compulsory elective courses in many Nigerian universities. This glossary in three languages will aid the transfer of technology and help researchers in other areas of study. For example, those working on French/Igbo translation certainly need the terminologies in their working languages.

In order to keep pace with the fast rate of development in the scientific world, we engaged in assembling terms and where need be, create terms in automobile sector in Igbo language to enable the Science and Technology teachers to impart knowledge to their students in Igbo language, assist artisans and mechanic apprentices to comprehend easily what they are taught and to enrich the Igbo language vocabulary.

IV. Methods of term creation

It was only after due research for existing and documented Igbo equivalent terms had been exhausted that we resorted to term creation. Terms are not created haphazardly. For a term to be created, some methods must be employed. In the creation of terms, attempt has been made to ensure that the created terms are both transparent and specific, since they are cognitive tools for understanding phenomena. One of the methods of term creation used was Dubuc's and it is classified into direct and indirect methods. In the present glossary, only the direct method has been used. The predominant aspect of the direct method used is composition, which involves joining two or more full meaning words. In addition to the above composition method, care has been taken to analyse component terms into their nuclear elements before the terminal composition. Other techniques used include: naturalization, equivalence, explicative modulation, idiomatic rendering and analogy.

V. Explanation of the techniques of term creation used

(a) **Composition/compounding:** This is a process of joining two or more meaningful independent words to form a single term. It does not only involve words from particular part of speech, words from different parts of speech can also be stringed together. Combinatory possibilities include N + N, N + Adj., N + V, V+V etc.

Examples include:

Petrol tank   Ọ̀dọ́ /tánkị̀ ńmánụ́ ụ́gbọ́àlà
                            Ọ̀dọ́ +tánkị̀ + ńmánụ́ +ụ́gbọ́àlà
                           N + N + N + N

       Brake pedal   Pédálụ̀ kéèbò
     Pédálụ̀ + ké + èbò
      N + Adj. + N

     Accelerator pedal   Pédálụ̀ kéọ́sọ̄
       Pédálụ̀ + ké + ọ́sọ̄
   N + Adj. + V

     Clutch pedal   Pédálụ̀/ńzòdókèklọ̀chị̀
    Pédálụ̀/ńzòdó + kè + klọ̀chị̀
     N + N + Adj. + N

(b) **Equivalence:** These are terms that have their equivalents in the target language.

Examples:

     Sliding sun roof/sunroof   Ùkóḿméchí/ḿméghé
Antenna, aerial   Ókpòròrédíò
     Door handle   Ákáụ́zọ̀
     Wheel cover   Ókwúchíwílù

(c) **Explicative modulation/Expansion of meaning:** This technique is applicable where there is lack of equivalent in the target language. Using explicative modulation – explaining the meaning in the target language - solves the problem.

Examples with the analysis:

Front wheel drive   -   Íkíkésínáńjìǹ ị̀gā nà wílù nọ́ n'ihú

Íkíké + sí + ná + ńjìǹ + ị́gā + nà + wílù + nọ́ + ná + íhú (The engine power felt by the front wheel).

Power + from+ engine + to go +in + wheel + sit + in + front

Parking/arm brake   -   Èbò ńkwụ́sị́ kèákā

Èbò + ńkwụ́sị́ + kèákā (Brake that is applied with hands)

Brake + stop + of arm

Number plate light   -   Ọ́kụ́ épékélé ákàrà ụ̀gbọ́àlà

Ọ́kụ́ + épékélé + ákàrà + ụ́gbọ́àlà (Plate that bears the vehicle number)

Light + plate   + number + vehicle

(d) Idiomatic rendering: Idioms are succession of words whose meanings are not obvious through the knowledge of the individual meanings of the constituent words but must be learnt as a whole. It is an expression that is peculiar to a society. It is a form of word coinage which leads to the introduction of new words or extension of meaning of existing words.
Example:

Fender/wing   Ǹjám̄mā

(e) Analogy of function: A term could be named because of the similar function it performs with another term in different domains. A bag is used for putting things and securing them so is the functions of grille and accessory pocket hence the Igbo term àkpà, which is for keeping and securing things.
Example:

Grille   Àkpà
Accessory pocket   Àkpà (ńkwányé) ńgwā

(f) Naturalization: This concerns our indigenous languages. If you are dealing with Igbo, it becomes Igbonization, Yoruba, Yorubanization etc. Naturalization is coined out by spelling the source language term with the orthography of the target language.

Bonnet	bọ́nètì
Wheel	Wílù
Spanner	Spánà
Tyre	Táyà
Engine	Ńjìǹ
Steering wheel	Stárị̀nwílù
Radiator	Ràdìétò̀

ENGLISH – FRENCH - IGBO AUTOMOBILE TERMS

S/N	ENGLISH	FRENCH	IGBO	TECHNIQUE
1.	Headlight(s)	les phares	Ọ́kụ́ íhū	Equivalence
2.	Windscreen/windshield	le pare-brise	Ùgègbè ịhū (úgbọ́àlà)	Equivalence
3.	Windshield/screen wiper	l'essuie-glace	Òhíchá ùgègbè	Equivalence
4.	Outside mirror/door mirror	le rétroviseur extérieur	Ùgègbè ákùkù/mpùtá	Equivalence
5.	Washer nozzle	le lave-glace/ le giclair de lave-glace	Ọ̀pì ḿmírī ńhíchá	Composition
6.	Hood/bonnet	le capot	Òkpùch íńjìǹ/bọ́nètì	Equivalence/ Naturalization
7.	Grill	le calandre	Wáyà ńchékwá /óghére ìkùkù	Explicative modulation
8.	Cowl, scuttle panel	le capot	Ǹgòdó ùgègbè ịhū (úgbọ́àlà)	Explicative modulation
9.	Bumper	le pare-choc	Ǹchéíhū úgbọ́àlà/ọ̀ghọ́ ọ̄kpū/bọ́mpà	Analogy of function/Naturalization
10.	Shield	le bouclier	Ǹchékwá	Equivalence
11.	Fender/wing	l'aile	Ǹjám̄mā	Idiomatic rendering
12.	Body shield moulding/side panel	la baguette de flanc	Íbá ákùkù kè ákáńrī/ákáèkpè	Composition
13.	Door	la portière	Úzọ̀	Equivalence
14.	Sliding sun roof/sunroof	le toit ouvrant	Ùkó ḿméchí/ḿméghé	Composition
15.	Antenna, aerial	l' antenne	Ókpòrò rédíò	Equivalence
16.	Roof	l' avillon	Ùkó úgbọ́àlà	Equivalence
17.	Door handle	la poignée de porte	Áká úzọ̀	Equivalence
18.	Wheel cover	l' enjoliveur	Ókwúchí wílù	Equivalence
19.	Window	la glace , le vitre	M̀píó/wíńdò	Equivalence
20.	Door lock	le verrou de porte	Mpịchí úzọ̀	Equivalence
21.	Wheel	la roue	Wílù	Naturalization
22.	Mud flap	le pare-boue	Ǹché ápịtị	Analogy of function
23.	Central door post pillar	le montant de porte/le montant lateral	Ǹdìm̀/ìdé úzọ̀	Equivalence
24.	Drip moulding	la gouttière	Ọ̀wà ḿmírī	Analogy of form
25.	Steering wheel	le volant	Stárịn wílù	Naturalization
26.	Brake pedal	la pédale de frein	Pédálù̀ ké èbò	Composition
27.	Accelerator pedal	la pédale d'accélérateur	Pédálù̀ ké ọ́sọ̄	Composition
28.	Clutch pedal	la pédale de débrayage	Pédálù̀/ńzọ̀dó/kè klọ̀chị̀	Composition
29.	Engine	le moteur	Ǹjìǹ	Naturalization
30.	Horn	l' avertisseur	Ọ̀pì	Equivalence
31.	Vent	la bouche d'air	Óghéré ìkùkù	Composition
32.	Gear box	la boîte de vitesse	Ìgbégíà	Analogy of function
33.	Brake disk	le freinàduque	Épẹkélé èbò	Equivalence
34.	Tyre	le pneu	Táyà	Naturalization
35.	Radiator	le radiateur	Ràdiétọ̀	Naturalization
36.	Battery	la batterie (d'accumulateur)	Bátịrị	Naturalization
37.	Exhaust pipe	le tuyau d'échappement	Ókpòrò ánwùrù	Equivalence
38.	Frame	le chassis	Nji/ngudo úzọ	Equivalence
39.	Shock absorber	l'amortisseur	Ǹghọ́ ekweke ekwe	Composition
40.	Clutch	l'embrayage	Klọ̀chị̀	Naturalization
41.	Rim	le jante	Rím	Nauralization
42.	Starter	le démarreur	M̀bídó	Equivalence
43.	Fuel pump	la pompe à essence	Mbụḿmánụ́ úgbọ́àlà	Composition
44.	Air filter	le filtre à air	Mfụ̀chá ìkùkù	Composition

45.	Coil	la bobine	Kọ́lị̀	Naturalization
46.	Body	la carrosserie	Àhụ́	Naturalization
47.	Rear axle	le pont arrière	Ázụ̀lụ̀ ké āzụ̄	Composition
48.	Trunk/boot	le coffre	Ébé ńdọ́nyé íbū/bútù	Explicative modulation/ Naturalization
49.	Petrol/gas tank	le réservoir (d'essence)	Ọ̀dọ́ /tán̄kị̀ ḿmánụ́ ụ́gbọ́àlà /peturolu	Composition
50.	Petrol/Gas	l'essence	Mmánụ́ ụ́gbọ́àlà	Composition
51.	SEAT	LE SIÈGE	Óché	Equivalence
52.	Front seat	le siege d'avant	Óché íhū	Equivalence
53.	Rear seat	la banquette d' arrière	Óché āzụ̄	Equivalence
54.	Head rest	l'appui-tête, le repose-tête	Ébé ńtụ́kwàsị̀ ísī	Equivalence
55.	Back rest/squab	le dossier	Ébé ńdàbéré	Equivalence
56.	Seat belt	la ceinture de sécurité	Érírí ńgùdó óchē	Composition
57.	Shoulder belt	le bauderier	Érírí ńgùdó ūbū	Composition
58.	Sliding lever	la manette de glissement	Ḿgbálí ọ́mị̀mị̀	Composition
59.	Sliding rail	le rail de glissement	Ókpòrò ọ́mịmị̀	Composition
60.	Arm rest	l' appui-bras	Áká óchē	Composition
61.	Buckle	le boucle	Ńtúchí	Equivalence
62.	Bench seat	la banquette	Óché ógólógó	Equivalence
63.	Webbing	les sangles	Ǹgùdó óché āzụ̄	Composition
64.	Door	la portière	Ụ́zọ̀	Equivalence
65.	Window	La glace	Mpío	Equivalence
66.	Interior door handle	la poignée intérieure	Áká ụ́zọ̀ kè ímē	Composition
67.	Assist grip	la poignée de maintien	Ǹjìdé áká	Composition
68.	Door mirror control	le commande du rétroviseur	Ò̀búghá ùgègbè (kè) ụ́zọ̀	Composition
69.	Window/winder handle	la manivelle de lève-glace, lève-vitre	Mgbálí ùgègbè	Composition
70.	Accessory pocket	le vide-poche	Àkpà (ńkwányé) ńgwā	Analogy of function
71.	Jack handle	la poignée de cric	Áká ják	Composition
72.	Hinge	la charnière	Òjìkọ́	Equivalence
74.	Interior door lock button	le bouton de verrouillage	Ádụ́ḿbí/bọ́tị̀nị̀ ḿpịchí ụ́zọ̀ kè ímē	Composition
75.	Lock	la serrure	Ńtúchí/Ḿpìchí	Equivalence
76.	HEAD LIGHTS	LES PHARES	Ọ́KỤ́ ÍHŪ GĀ	Equivalence
77.	Light	Les feux	Ọ́kụ́	Equivalence
78.	High beam/main beam	Les feux de route	Ọ́kụ́ ūtị̄	Equivalence
79.	Low beam	lesfeuxde croissement	Ọ́kụ́ ñsō	Equivalence
80.	Fog light/fog lamp	les feux de brouillard	Ọ́kụ́ álùghụ̀lù	Equivalence
81.	Rear light	Les feux rouges arrières	Ọ́kụ́ āzụ̄	Equivalence
82.	Turn signal/indicator	les feux clignotants	Ọ́kụ́ ǹtụ̀áká (BCA)	Composition
83.	Brake light	le feu stop	Ọ́kụ́ èbo	Equivalence
84.	Back up light/reversing light	le feu de recul	Ọ́kụ́ ǹlámáázụ́	Equivalence
85.	Bulb	l'ampoule	Bọ́bù	Naturalization
86.	Parking light	Les feux de position	Ọ́kụ́ ńkwụ́sị̀	Equivalence
87.	ACCESSORIES	LES ACCESSOIRES	ŃGWÁ DỊ̀ ÍCHÈÍCHÈ	Composition
88.	Jack	le cric	Ják/ḿgbànyéré	Naturalization
89.	Wheel spanner	la clé de roue	Spánà wílù	Naturalization
90.	Screwdriver	le tournevis	Skrùdrívà	Naturalization
91.	Tarpaulin	la bâche goudronnée	Tàpọ̀lìn	Naturalization
92.	Wheel bolt	le boulon de roué	Ńtúchó/bótùwílù	Naturalization
93.	Number plate	la plate	Épékélé ákàrà ụ́gbọ́àlà	Equivalence

		d'immatriculation		
94.	Wheel spin	le patinage	Wílùná-éféghárị̄	Composition
95.	Rear view mirror	le rétroviseur	Ènyó āzū	Equivalence
96.	Rear wheel drive	les roués arriéres motrices	Íkíké síná ńjìnị̀ gānà wílù nọ́ n'àzụ́	Composition
97.	Front wheel drive	la traction avant	Íkíké sína ńjìnị̀ gānà wílù nọ́ n'ihú	Explicative modulation
98.	Parking/arm brake	le freinà main	Ebòńkwụ́sọ́ kè ákā	Explicative modulation
99.	Rear/back window	la glace arrière	Ṁpí ókéāzū	Equivalence
100.	Side marker light; side light	le rétroviseur extérieur/ le feu de gabarit	Ọ̀kụ́ ákụ̀kụ̀	Equivalence
101.	Number plate light	l'éclairage	Ọ̀kụ́ épékélé ákàrà ụ́gbọ̀àlà	Explicative modulation
102.	Dash board	le tableau de bord	Ùkó íhú ụ́gbọ̀àlà	Composition

VI.   Conclusion

The world has been reduced to a global village through science and technology and most of the countries and world powers in the fore-front of this scientific and technological advancement use their indigenous languages in their day-to-day activities. In other for Nigeria to key into this fast moving scientific and technological growth, some automobile terms in Igbo language have been assembled and created where necessary in this paper. If this can be done in other Nigerian languages, it will go a long way in bringing technology home to our people and also move both our educational and technological sectors forward.

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Interviewees

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Mr. Asaba Chinedu -Umuahia mechanic village