

**Sudan University of Science and Technology**

**College of Graduate Studies**

**Language Needs in a Multilingual Situation:  
A Case Study of Petroleum Sector in Sudan.**

**A Thesis Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements  
For the degree of M.A. in English Language (Applied  
Linguistics)**

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احتياجات اللغة في وضع متعدد اللغات

"دراسة حالة قطاع البترول في السودان"

أطروحة مقدمة لنيل درجة الماجستير في اللغة الانجليزية (اللغويات

التطبيقية)

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## ***Dedication***

**This work is dedicated to my parents, particularly to the soul of my father, who exerted every possible effort to educate me, May mercy of ALLAH be upon his soul. To my wife, twins, my school teachers, and to my tutors.**

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## **List of Abbreviations**

CC	Communicative Competence
LC	Linguistic Competence
EFL	English as Foreign Language
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
EU	European Union
ESP	English for Special Purposes
DCT	Data Collection Test
LNSQ	Language Needs Assessments Questionnaire
GNOPC	Greater Nile Operating Petroleum Company
WNOPC	White Nile Operating Petroleum Company
L1	First Language
L2	Second Language
ELSU	English Language Service Unit
E-mail	Electronic Mail

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## **ABSTRACT**

This research is an attempt to assess English language needs among the staff of petroleum producing companies in Sudan. Such companies abound in staff coming from a variety of national backgrounds. As such they constitute a multilingual speech community. English is assumed to function as lingua franca, bridging the communicative gap stem up by the staff language backgrounds.

Research data have been collected through a questionnaire. Particularly, subjects were asked to rank their need of English vis-à-vis different jobs pertaining to petroleum producing companies in Sudan. They were also asked to rank the most needed language skills.

Results have indicated that subjects rank knowledge and use English language as necessary requirements of success of business. It has also been found that the significantly desired areas of needs are to communicate with foreign authorities, setting up anew division and to win contracts.

Finally, it has been found out that there has been no difference in the ranking of skills in order of difficulty.

## **مستخلص Abstract (Arabic Version)**

هذا البحث يحاول تقويم احتياجات اللغة الانجليزية وسط العاملين بالشركات المنتجة للنفط بالسودان . إن العاملين بهذه الشركات ينحدرون من جنسيات مختلفة ، حيث يشكلون مجتمع متعدد اللغات . يجب أن تستخدم اللغة الانجليزية للتواصل ، لملء الفراغ اللغوي التواصلية وسط العاملين من خلفيات لغوية مختلفة بشركات النيل الكبرى ، بترودار ، النيل الابيض للبتروك .

لقد تم جمع بيانات البحث من خلال الاستبانة . لقد تم سؤال المستهدفين لتصنيف احتياجاتهم للغة الانجليزية مع اللغات الاخرى ، وأيضاً الوظائف المختلفة بالشركات المنتجة للنفط بالسودان . ايضاً تم سؤالهم لترتيب اكثر مهارات اللغة الانجليزية من حيث الحاجة .

لقد أشارت النتائج الى الاتى المستهدفون رتبوا معرفة و فائدة اللغة الانجليزية من المتطلبات الضرورية لنجاح الأعمال ، وأيضاً وجدوا الاهتمامات المرغوبة لاحتياجات اللغة هو التواصل مع الجهات الأجنبية ، لتصميم المشروعات الجديدة وللغز بالعقود . وجاءت النتيجة الاخيرة بعدم وجود أى اختلاف فى ترتيب مهارات اللغة الانجليزية من حيث الصعوبة .