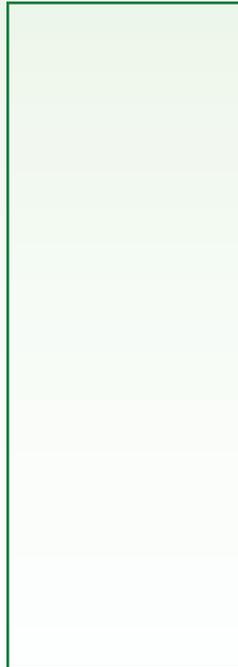


ALT Highlights

Language Identification Training (LIT) is based on a novel concept of language identification including the data obtained on acquisition of language identification features by multilingual subjects. The project has been significantly enriched by the incorporation of concepts from linguistic pragmatics and discourse analysis. Importantly, the application will enable the users to incorporate their individual backgrounds and learning experiences.



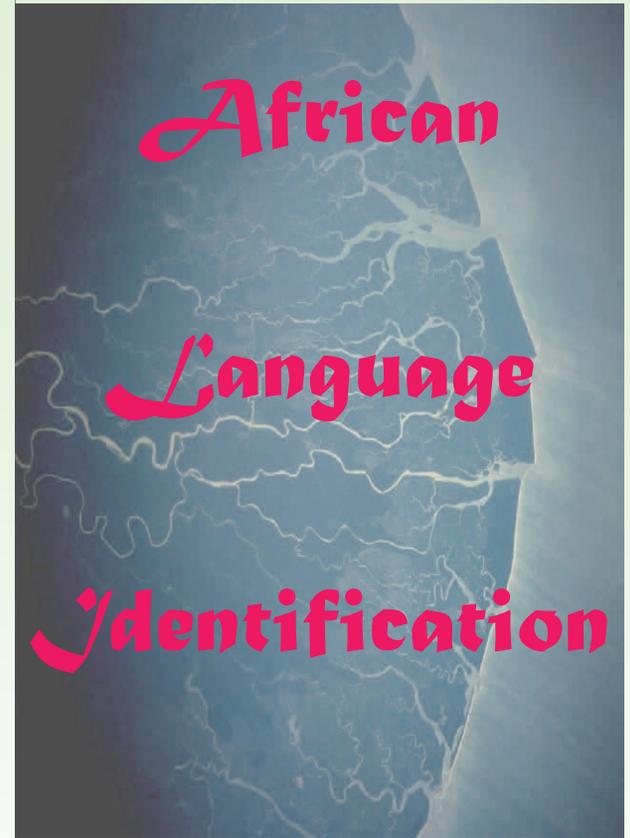
Mombasa Market



Stamp

Commander
USAICoE
ATTN: ATZS-TC
Ft. Huachuca, AZ 85613-6000

USAICoE



USAICoE
TCC Language Initiatives
Fort Huachuca, Arizona

Tel: 520-454-1230
<https://ikn.army.mil/CultureCenter>

Language Identification Training

The Language Sampler application encompasses three components:

- 1) Micro-sites containing language samples organized by countries.
- 2) Database of searchable Key Features for Language Identification.
- 3) Series of activities entitled: *Explorations in Language Identification (ELI)*.

The Key Words/Features

- Provides one-of-a-kind search options assisting the learner in language identification.
- A convenient basic source of multilingual survival skills items searchable by language and type of item.
 - ◇ Easily compare greetings, courtesy terms, or basic numbers across languages.
 - ◇ Listen to corresponding audio files.
 - ◇ Review special sounds or grammatical items.
- A microsite provides language samples relevant to language identification training in several Niger Delta languages.

Sharing Materials: A micro-site with languages of interest spoken in Kenya is being created.

- Interesting visual and audio materials from Kenya have been collected by our team-members.
- Maasai, Luo, Gikuyu and native and non-native Swahili from the Mombasa area.



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Language Initiatives Mission

Provide mission-focused, task-based language training, resources that will enable Soldiers, students, researchers, curriculum designers and developers to proficiently execute the tactical or strategic language mission to which they are assigned.

Language Sampler

The Language Sampler Project will release an on-line *Language Identification Training* (LIT) application. The current language samples include the Niger Delta languages and the major languages of Nigeria as well as several East African languages. The purpose is to train non-linguists in using certain linguistic characteristics to identify target languages by the smallest cluster of features they may hear through various means of electronic transmission. After the language is identified, a trained target language speaker will listen to the passage to acquire useful and timely information of value to military commanders.



SCOLA

SCOLA has provided authentic language materials from the "hot", "difficult to get into" spots. Examples: Izon, Ijaw, Fulani-Wolof posted at "On the Street Videos" as well as authentic materials in the national languages of Nigeria via broadcasts. The samples exemplify a whole range of voices, language dialects/varieties within each language and represent numerous contexts and settings.

The samples obtained through SCOLA have become an integral part of our new on-line application for Language Identification

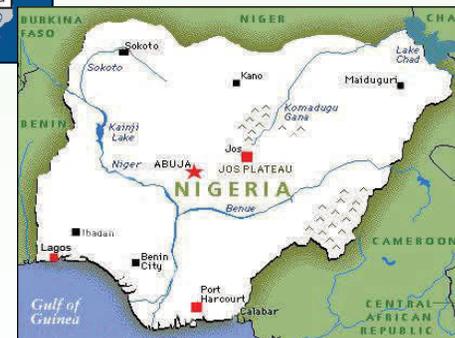


Delta village

Training (LIT). Although, we are currently focusing on the selected languages from the Niger Delta, the system may accommodate a number of languages. Notably, the African continent is home to over 2,000 languages, a number which varies depending on what is considered a language versus a dialect. Nigeria, the most populous country in Africa has the largest number of languages in Africa with over 500 and is an excellent testing ground for our application. We have acquired language samples such as Igbo, Hausa, Yoruba, Ijaw, Fulani, Ibibio, Urhobo and others.

ALT Development Team

Mr. Pete Shaver	Chief, LIB	520-454-1230
Dr. Krystyna Wachowicz	Prin Invest..	By request
Mr. Mario Vasquez	Prgrammer	By request



Commander
USAICoE
ATTN: ATZS-TC
Ft. Huachuca, AZ 85613-6000
Phone: (520) 454-1230, DSN 842
Fax: (520) 533-2037, DSN 821
Email: peter.a.shaver.civ@mail.mil