



## **Autosegmental Analysis of Consonant Deletion of Ijebu-French Bilinguals in Selected Universities in South West of Nigeria.**

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### **ABSTRACT**

In communication, each spoken word is created out of the phonetic combination of a limited set of vowel and consonant speech sound units. Deletion which involves loss of segment involving vowel and consonants is a common phonological process in language. Existing studies have examined deletion in several languages and dialects with less attention paid to the spoken French of Ijebu Undergraduates. This article therefore examined consonant deletion in the spoken French of forty-four Ijebu Undergraduate French Learners (IUFLs) in Selected Universities in South West of Nigeria with a view to establishing the dominance of consonant deletion in the spoken French of IUFLs. The data collection was through tape-recording of participants' production of 30 sentences containing both French vowel and consonant sounds while Goldsmith's Autosegmental theory of phonology(1990) was used to analyse instances of consonant deletion by the IUFLs. The results revealed inappropriate consonant deletion in the initial, medial and final positions in the French speech communication of IUFLs.

**Keywords:** IUFLs, Consonant deletion, Autosegmental phonology, French as foreign, language

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