

J. Clancy Cements. *The linguistic legacy of Spanish and Portuguese: Colonial expansion and language change*. (Cambridge Approaches to Language Contact). Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009. (ix, 256)

This text tackles some fascinating topics, especially the Spanish of bozales and Chinese Coolies in Cuba, the situation of Spanish and Quechua in the Andes region, and the Spanish-Portuguese contact situation in Barranco. At every step the right amount of historical development is provided to set the stage socially for what came about linguistically. The text is supplemented by three figures, four maps, and 46 tables, along with two appendices which reproduce historical texts of significance to the language situation in Cuba in the eighteenth century.

Initially, readers must wade through an exposition of theoretical constructs, whose threads are picked up as material is developed in the topic areas. Most useful appear theories that point to a ‘feature pool’ where the saliency of a high token frequency influences what features are emphasized by learners where a second language is acquired naturalistically.

Chapter 2 “The Romanization of the Iberian Peninsula,” discusses the development of Romance in the Iberian Peninsula and offers a picture of competing reflexes of different stages of Latin took root in the Portuguese and Castilian areas in contrast to the Catalan (and French) areas, e.g., Port. and Cast. *comer* ‘eat’, *dar* ‘give’, and *querer* ‘want’ vs. Cat. (and Fr.) *menjar donar*, and *voler*, respectively (33).

Chapter 3 continues the theme of providing a historical foundation for social developments in discussing the African slave trade and the slave population brought to Portugal early in the colonial period after the bubonic plague reduced its population and decimated its workforce, and we learn that Portugal became “the first kingdom to incorporate slaves into its own domestic economy,” as between 1450 and 1505, perhaps 150,000 slaves were brought to the kingdom, who eventually constituted 15 percent of the population of Lisbon (45). Scholarship on

texts recorded from the speech of African slaves in Portugal reveals interesting developments, including the use of adverbials like *logo* ‘right away’ and *ja* ‘already’ as tense or time markers, absent corresponding verbal inflection and 3SG PRES or infinitive forms as default (47). It is postulated that out of the contact among Portuguese sailors, slaves, and those who worked in the slave trade, a pidgin lexified by Portuguese developed. The advent of Portuguese traders and their military support in Southeast Asia likewise led to the formation of pidgins in the region.

The case of Bozal Spanish in Cuba makes for compelling study in Chapter 4. It is calculated, and considerable scholarship exists on the question of slave populations and movements to the Caribbean, that 702,000 slaves were brought to Cuba over the period of the Atlantic Slave trade (70). During the last decades of the slave trade, the black population outnumbered the white population by between 2 and 18%, with a much higher concentration of whites in Havana and the Africans mostly distributed among sugar cane and tobacco farms (77). Features of Bozal Spanish include the use of adjectives in noun slots (86), reduplication of *verdad* to indicate genuineness and for emphasis (87), and confusion of *u* and *o* (89). Based on reliable scholarship in the form of documented observations and conclusions on the question by linguistically sophisticated observers on the scene, the author takes the position that in this contact situation no stable pidgin ever existed; what developed was naturalistic second language acquisition (92, 101). In the data cited, it appears to this observer that perceptual saliency competes with token frequency in accounting for the acquisition of forms.

Equally fascinating is the story of Chinese coolie laborers, and their acquisition of Spanish in Cuba, in Chapter 5. The Chinese laborers were recruited from southern regions to fill the demand for labor in the second half of the nineteenth century. Reports cited indicate that these mostly literate immigrants mixed little with Africans, although evidence exists that some

intermarriage occurred (109 – 10). Evidence in the form of documented conversations between an official of Chinese origin and a Spanish captain suggests that, as the officer speaks in the standard variety, no accommodation is made by the captain, i.e., that they speak not a contact language but target the standard Spanish, which the Chinese official speaks in what appears to be an L2 variety (110).

Features of the official's Spanish include use of *son* (3 PL) as default copula, absence of article *los*, and phonological reductions, e.g., *ficiá* < *oficiales*. Other samples add to that *ta* < *estar*, which is reinterpreted as a marker of present action, *No seño ... ta trabaja* 'no señor, I was working', along with reductions in tense and aspect morphology (114 – 15). In *No es un chino manila, no* 'I am not a Chinaman', it is unlikely that the sentence final particle is the result of input from bozales, especially given the documented paucity of contact between the groups. Cantonese, however, bears a number of sentence final particles with negative denotation; this L1 influence is a more likely choice. Likewise the phenomenon of "no passive voice" is attributed to "other" (i.e., not Chinese or Spanish) sources (118, Table 5.6; also noted at 144 among contemporary immigrant speakers). Once again, Chinese eschews the passive, using a variety of strategies to convey the notion. These suggestions notwithstanding, the chapters on the situation of Spanish in Cuba represent an absolute gem of scholarship which contributes much.

In Chapter 6, the speech of two Chinese immigrants in contemporary Spain is documented. One curiosity that emerges is the apparent preference for *son* over *es*. In addition to purely phonological L1 influence (preference for CV or CVN syllables), this may bear an influence from Chinese semantics, where the individualized, countable unit is the marked category. Likewise, it is noted that the speakers studied replace  $\theta$  with *s* (141). One need not look for possible sources of input among the varieties of Spanish to account for this. A well known

substitution that demonstrates L1 influence, this is a universally observed outcome resulting from the fact that the interdental fricative is absent from the Chinese phonetic inventory and is systematically replaced with *s* by learners who have not been specifically trained to produce it. At (147) 6.13 a, b, the female informant demonstrates an absence of locative prepositions in *yo llega ø Madrid*, which seems in fact to be a word for word translation of a Mandarin clause, *wo lai Madrid ...* ‘I come Madrid ...’, despite what a reference book might have appeared to indicate. Likewise *cuanto año* translates word for word *duoxiao nian* (how many years): idiomatically, ‘many years’ (ibid.). At (153 – 54) 6.29 and 6.30, all omitted copulas are consistent with Chinese equivalent clauses, where copula does not occur, either because adjectivals serve as sentence heads instead or locative phrases have their own verbal markers: *yo siempre con Yuen ~ wo conglai gen Yuen* (I always follow-with Yuen). These observations underscore the need to be familiar with the languages in contact in order to identify what informs the feature pool, as when the influence of Chinese resources is taken fully into account, the L2 situation appears not nearly so complicated. It can also be noted that perceptual saliency is to a greater or lesser extent determined by L1 influences.

In Chapter 7 another very useful historical sketch situates the development of Spanish in the Andean region. The chapter documents the varieties of Spanish spoken in a region where Quechua was the primary tongue. Particularly interesting are those in the Montaro Valley region in Peru and the Salta region of Argentina, spoken as L1 over a number of generations. Here features such as vowel raising (176), *lo* in expanded contexts and as an aspectual marker (179, 183), topicalization (184), and verb first order in Salta (ibid.), among numerous others suggests to this reader that these varieties in fact developed as creoles, which, perhaps analogous to

Hawai'ian creole, lives under the influence of the standard language which is ubiquitous in media and taught in schools.

The Barrancos area on the Iberian peninsula, discussed in Chapter 8, has emerged as a fascinating case study of a variety that developed from longitudinal contact between speakers of established Romance varieties. The history of the region and the intriguing details of the speech, which applies phonological processes derived from one variety and shows otherwise a curious and complex mix of features, is well documented here.

This text makes significant contributions to our knowledge about the history and development of Portuguese and Spanish, the phenomena of a large African population being transported to Portugal early in the colonial era, the linguistic situation of African bozales and immigrant Chinese workers in Cuba, the expansion of Spanish and Spanish lexified varieties in the Andean region, and the development of Barranquenho. The book offers rewarding reading for those with an interest in Spanish and Portuguese linguistics as well as the general linguist.

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