



# Lexicographical Gaps in Indigenous Language Media: A Case for Specialised English-Igbo Media Communication Dictionaries

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## Abstract

*The rapid global expansion of media communication systems has underscored the critical need for specialised lexicographical resources to address existing linguistic disparities, particularly in indigenous African languages such as Igbo. Despite the increasing demand for culturally relevant media content, the absence of standardised terminology in Igbo poses significant challenges for journalists, broadcasters, and digital content creators who operate within Igbo-speaking contexts. This study investigates the necessity of a specialised English-Igbo dictionary for media communication, proposing a foundational lexicon comprising 50 key terms alongside their linguistically and culturally appropriate Igbo equivalents. Theoretically anchored in Wittgenstein's (1953) Use Theory of Meaning, which emphasises contextual usage in determining semantic value, and the Alphabetisation Rule for systematic terminology organisation, this research adopts a qualitative lexicographical methodology. Through a combination of term extraction from existing media glossaries, native speaker consultations, and expert validation, the study establishes a preliminary framework for standardising Igbo media terminology. Findings reveal that the absence of such a dictionary impedes effective media communication among Igbo speakers, reinforcing the dominance of English in professional discourse. The study advocates for systematic terminology development to preserve linguistic identity and enhance media literacy in Igbo. It contributes to broader discussions on indigenous language revitalisation and calls for collaborative efforts between linguists, lexicographers, and media practitioners to ensure the sustainability of Igbo in an increasingly digital and globalised media environment.*

## 1. Introduction

The work of lexicography and lexicographers has been greatly eased and enhanced with the advent of modern technologies and digitalisation. Many languages have adopted these technological advancements and positioned themselves appropriately to serve fully, the communicative needs of its users and learners, through the continuous development of terms and vocabularies that respond to the societal changes, thus, leading to the creation of dictionaries that suit the needs of diverse classes of users and learners including media professionals and users.

On the other hand, the increasing globalisation of media and the rapid expansion of digital communication have heightened the need for accurate and accessible translation resources, particularly in multilingual societies such as Nigeria (Emenanjo, 2015). English remains the dominant language of media and official communication in Nigeria, yet indigenous languages, including Igbo, play a crucial role in cultural expression and local discourse (Uchekwue, 2016). However, the lack of standardised terminology in specialised fields such as media communication poses significant challenges for translators, journalists, and content creators working between English and Igbo (Nkamigbo, 2020).

The Igbo language, spoken by over 30 million people in Nigeria (Eze, 2018), has a rich lexical tradition but faces modernisation challenges, particularly in technical and media-related domains (Ogbuehi, 2019). While general bilingual dictionaries exist, they often lack specialised terminology required for effective media communication, leading to inconsistencies in translation and interpretation (Okebalama, 2021). This gap not only affects the quality of media content but also



hinders the development of Igbo as a language of professional and technical discourse (Ezikeojiaku, 2017).

Specialised dictionaries serve as vital tools for standardising terminology, facilitating accurate translation, and preserving linguistic authenticity in technical fields (Igboanusi, 2014). In the context of English-Igbo media communication, such a dictionary would provide precise equivalents for terms related to journalism, broadcasting, digital media, and public relations, thereby enhancing professionalism and clarity (Onyeche, 2020). Previous studies have highlighted the importance of lexicography in language development, particularly for African languages facing the pressures of globalisation and language shift (Emenanjo, 2015; Nkamigbo, 2020).

The absence of a dedicated English-Igbo media communication dictionary has resulted in ad hoc translations, often influenced by English syntactic structures rather than authentic Igbo usage (Ubahakwe, 2018). This situation underscores the necessity for a systematically compiled reference work that draws from both traditional Igbo lexicon and contemporary media discourse (Okebalama, 2021). By addressing this lexicographical gap, this study contributes to the broader efforts of language preservation and professionalisation of Igbo in media contexts. This study aims to mitigate the challenges faced by Igbo language media practitioners by pioneering the development of an

English-Igbo media communication terminology. This venture will provide a template for a standardised vocabulary for media communication in Igbo, facilitating effective communication and understanding among professionals and scholars in the field. The terminology will also contribute to the development and standardisation of Igbo language media practice, promoting the use of the language in media communication and enhancing its visibility and relevance in the field. Specifically, the study will:

1. Evaluate the state of specialised lexicography for Igbo;
2. Demonstrate the necessity of an English-Igbo media communication dictionary;
3. Propose a sample 50 word English Igbo Media Communication Dictionary as a template for further compilations.

## **2. Literature Review**

This section reviews related literature on the subject matter, and is divided into the following subsections: lexicography, principles and practice, Specialised Dictionaries in Language Development, Terminology development and Specialised Dictionaries in The Igbo Language, the dictionary making process, the language needs of the Igbo media practitioner, the theoretical framework and the summary of literature review.

### **2.1 Lexicography, principles and practice**

Crystal (1980) defines lexicography as the process of compiling dictionaries. The key word in defining lexicography is the dictionary, for the dictionary is central to the work of a lexicographer. Al-Kasimi (1977), Jackson (1988), Svenson (1993), and Landau (2001) all in Oweleke (2022) see lexicography as the making or compiling of dictionaries. Ajunwa (2009) opines lexicography as the creation, compilation or writing of dictionaries. However, lexicography is beyond just the compilation of dictionaries alone, it encompasses both the practical aspect of dictionary compilation, and the theoretical aspect concerned of developing templates and framework for compiling dictionaries that actually meet the needs of the users. Perhaps, a broader definition of lexicography, which reflects its two pronged nature, is that of Atkins & Rundell (2008) who see it as, "a discipline that involves the design, compilation, use, and evaluation of general and specialised dictionaries.", or that of Hartmann & James (1998), who pointed out that, "Lexicography is the professional activity and academic field concerned with dictionaries and other reference tools."

These definitions resonate with Ejikeojiaku (2004:12-13) who asserts that



Lexicography is the art and science of dictionary-making; a sort of Applied Lexicology in the sense that it is a part of the entire study of a language's lexicon or vocabulary, including its history or etymology.

To effectively define the dictionary, it will be necessary to first highlight certain terms which bear resemblance to what a dictionary is, but are in effect not dictionary, these are glossary and wordlist. Glossaries and wordlists are sister products of lexicography as is a dictionary, but there is an essential distinction among the three in terms of content and quality. A glossary, according to Umeodinka (n.d) is a specialised list of terms and their definitions as related to a specific field or context. It could be the meaning of words as they are used in a book, a course or an industry. A glossary is the precursor to a specialised dictionary. The definitions are usually short and concise and are often found at the back of books or documents. Wordlists are simply lists of words without definitions. They may or may not be alphabetically arranged. In the process of dictionary compilation, the collection of wordlists is paramount. However similar these two terms are to a dictionary, they are too limited in content and scope to be equated to dictionaries (Landau 2001).

Dictionaries are comprehensive reference materials that contain definitions, spellings, pronunciations, etymologies and usage examples of content words. It is a systematic compilation of words in a language, providing information on their meanings, pronunciations, etymologies, usage, and other linguistic features. Dictionaries serve as essential reference tools for language learners, writers, editors, researchers, translators, etc.

There have been different classifications of dictionaries done by different eminent scholars, based on scope, content, language, size, etc. In the views of Ezikeojiaku (2004), Ajunwa (2009), Umeodinka (n.d), dictionaries are broadly classified in several ways:

- i. By content: general and specialised dictionaries
- ii. By End User approach: learner's dictionaries, general purpose dictionaries and scholarly dictionaries
- iii. By language reach: monolingual, bilingual and, multilingual dictionaries
- iv. By format: electronic/digital and paper dictionaries
- v. By size: pocket sized, medium sized and large dictionaries

## **2.2 Specialised Dictionaries in Language Development**

Specialised dictionaries, also termed LSP (Language for Special Purposes) dictionaries or technical lexicographical tools, serve as critical resources for domain-specific communication, translation, and knowledge acquisition. Unlike general-purpose dictionaries, they focus on the terminology, syntactic structures, and conceptual frameworks of particular fields such as law, medicine, or engineering. Specialised dictionaries focus on terminology from a particular field providing precise definitions relevant to professions, hobbies, or academic disciplines.

Bergenholtz & Tarp (2010) define specialised dictionaries as "utility tools designed to fulfill specific user needs in communicative or cognitive situations," emphasizing their role in bridging gaps between general language and technical jargon", for Ajunwa (2009), specialised dictionaries are dictionaries which deal "with special areas of vocabulary such as slang, science and technology, law, religion, accounting, etc."

Specialised dictionaries are tailored particularly to serve the need of the target audience, and they could be professionals in a field, a language group or strata, researchers, learners or interpreters. Specialised dictionaries play a very vital role in the vocabulary development and standardisation of every language. Being specifically adapted to the needs of a specific language group, it serves the communication needs of the particular language group, while at the same time creating terminologies whose meanings can be adopted for general use in the language. Specialised dictionaries play the role of standardisation, precision, and accessibility in the language vocabulary development.



### 2.3 Terminology development and Specialised Dictionaries in The Igbo Language

The role of terminology development and specialised dictionaries in a language can not be overemphasised. The process of terminology development in indigenous Nigerian languages came with the discovery of the benefits of mother tongue in early childhood education, Mbah, Mbah, Iloene, Okeke and Okeke (2021). According to them;

These background activities necessitated two landmark projects which gave rise to the history of terminology in Nigeria. First, the Ministry of Education in 1978 sponsored a Terminology Workshop at the Obafemi Awolowo University (then University of Ife). As cited in Anita (2000), the aim of the workshop as contained in the programme, was to compile an official standardised glossary of technical and scientific terminologies for the primary school curriculum in the following nine (9) Nigerian Languages: Edo, Efik, Fulfulde, Hausa, Igbo, Ijo, Kanuri, Yoruba and Tiv. The outputs of the project are the three volumes of *A Vocabulary Primary Science and Mathematics*, each volume consisting of three languages. The terms do not have definitions

Going further, Mbah et al (2021), further clarified the foundational role of the Nigeria Educational Research Council (NERC) in sponsoring and promoting research into the development of terminologies in the indigenous languages of the Nigerian people. According to them;

The Nigeria Educational Research Council (NERC) supported the Yoruba Studies Association of Nigeria, the Society for Promoting Igbo Language and Culture (SPILC) and the Hausa Studies Association (HSA) in metalanguage development projects. The products of the project are the *Hausa Metalanguage*, *Igbo Metalanguage* and *Yorùbá Metalanguage*. On the average, the terms for each of the languages were two thousand words without their definitions.

Again, following the promulgation of the 1979 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria of which section 51(1) stipulates that the business of the House of Assembly shall be conducted in English, but the House may in addition conduct the business of the House in one or more languages spoken by the state as the House may by resolution approve. Probably, to get this achieved, the National Assembly in 1980 appointed the National Language Centre to develop legislative terms in Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba. Due to the termination of the second republic, work on the project was delayed until in 1991 when they came up with *Quadrilingual Glossary of Legislative Terms* (English, Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba). It is made up of 18,000 terms without their definitions

In Igbo language however, few further attempts have been made in terminology development and specialised dictionary compilation, which are either lacking in depth and scope, or can be easily classified into wordlists or glossaries in a strict classification module. Some of these extant terminologies or specialised dictionaries include:

1. The Society for Promoting Igbo Language and Culture (SPILC, 1985) published "Okaasusu" in five volumes, which contained the recommendations of its Standardisation Committee (ISC) on Igbo nomenclature for various technical fields. These five volumes included the products of the NERC-sponsored terms, their reviews and adoption by the ISC, and other terms created through the seminars and conferences of the ISC (Ogbalu, 1985, pp. 5-6). However, critics like Uzochukwu (2002) have lamented how owing to the absolute lack of continuous updates and reviews, the lofty aspirations recommendations put forward by the participants have become outdated and irrelevant to the modern trends of language change and scientific advancements. Moreover, the Okaasusu covered only a few technical



vocabularies which were poetry, grammar, linguistics, literature and basic science terminology, it did not delve further into other fields like medicine, media communication, agriculture, religion, etc.

2. Mbah et al (2013) developed “Igbo Adi, the Igbo English English Igbo Dictionary of Linguistics and Literary Terms”, which was a collaborative attempt made by eminent Igbo linguists for the development of Igbo technical terms for linguistic and literary studies. The work, admirable in itself for bridging the Igbo nomenclature gap for the domain of linguistics and literature, is hampered by its inability to have been replicated in other fields.

Others include: Nwosu and the IMNG (2010) “English/Igbo Translation of Common Medical Terms”, Igboanusi and Mbah (Eds) (2017): English - Igbo Glossary of HIV, AIDS and Ebola Related Terms and a few others which going by their contents, would be more appropriately classified as glossaries.

The above expositions show clearly the huge gaps in the field of Igbo lexicography, especially in the development of terminologies and specialised dictionaries which attend to the language needs of Igbo professionals in different domains, emphasising the need for expeditious and collaborative actions to bridge this gap.

### **The Dictionary Making Process**

The fundamental objective of lexicography is the creation of dictionaries that effectively address the language needs of their users. Consequently, a thorough understanding of the dictionary-making process is indispensable to this study. Various scholars have proposed models to outline this process. Hartman (2001) presents a five-stage template, while Wahrig (1967) offers a six-step guide focused predominantly on the writing phase, and Zgusta (1971) condenses the procedure into four key steps. Ezikeojiaku (2004) provides a more detailed, sequential model that extends to include publication.

This work synthesizes these approaches by adapting Hartmann’s five-stage framework into a modified and comprehensive procedure, which will serve as the operational model for this study:

1. **Planning/Preliminary Stage:** This initial phase involves determining the type of dictionary to be compiled based on identified gaps and user needs, establishing language parameters, and outlining the project's budget and scope.
2. **Field Work:** In this stage, lexical entries are gathered according to the set parameters. Data collected from both primary sources, such as native speakers, and secondary sources, including text corpora and existing databases. A key recommendation is to gather more material than required to account for future refinements.
3. **Description/Editing Stage:** The assembled words are shaped into dictionary entries. This involves selecting suitable lemmas, followed by defining, translating, and exemplifying them. The construction of front matter (e.g., introductions, symbols) and back matter (e.g., appendices, bibliography) is also completed at this stage.
4. **Publication Stage:** The finalized manuscript undergoes proofreading and is prepared for publication. This phase also includes strategies for marketing and distribution to reach the target audience.
5. **Revision Stage:** An essential final phase, revision ensures the dictionary remains current. It is driven by user feedback, new linguistic developments, and the emergence of new vocabulary, and is critical for maintaining the dictionary's authority and relevance in a competitive landscape.





## 2.4 The Language Needs of the Igbo Media Practitioner

Media communication which is the subject matter of this discourse refers to the process of creating, sending, receiving, and analyzing messages through media channels (Dennis & Merrill, 2017). Media can be classified into two main categories: traditional media (print and broadcast media) and new media (digital media) (Bennett, 2016). An Igbo media practitioner refers to a media professional who plies his trade using the Igbo language as the language medium. Igbo media practitioners operate within a complex linguistic environment, confronting unique challenges rooted in the dominance of English as Nigeria's primary language (Eze, 2018). These challenges are multifaceted, encompassing a lack of standardisation due to the plurality of Igbo dialects, an absence of robust and specialised terminology for media practice, and severe financial constraints that limit production quality. Furthermore, the pervasive use of English creates intense competition for audiences, while deeper cultural and social barriers, including stereotypes, can hinder professional advancement. This often results in ad-hoc, individual efforts at translation without any unified framework or guiding standards.

The significance of media communication in information dissemination, education, and entertainment makes these challenges particularly consequential for the Igbo language community. Within the broader Nigerian context, where the media sector already grapples with issues like inadequate infrastructure and misinformation, the specific linguistic obstacles faced by Igbo professionals further inhibit the development and prestige of indigenous language media. Addressing these language-specific barriers is therefore integral to strengthening the overall media landscape.

## 2.6 Theoretical Framework

The compilation of a specialised dictionary necessitates a robust theoretical foundation to guide its methodology and structure. This brief outline discusses the two primary theories adopted for the development of a sample English-Igbo Dictionary of Media and Communication Terms: the Use Theory of Meaning and the Theory of Alphabetisation.

### The Use Theory of Meaning

The Use Theory, principally advanced by Wittgenstein (1953), posits that meaning is not an abstract correlation to objects or ideas but is derived from conventional use within a linguistic community. This perspective, which shifted semantic debate to ordinary language, emphasises context, social interaction, and speaker intention (Grice, 1957; Austin, 1962). Its applicability to African linguistics is well-established, as noted by Bamgbose's (1991) work on Yoruba proverbs and echoed by Umeodinka (2023).

This theory is critically relevant to bilingual terminological work for three reasons:

1. **Cultural Adaptation:** It accommodates socio-cultural norms, essential for finding apt equivalents (e.g., translating 'fox' with 'tortoise' for the concept of cunning).
2. **Contextual Flexibility:** It allows for meaning to be determined within a specific field (media communication), distinct from common usage.
3. **Practicality:** It advocates for usage exemplifications over abstract definitions (Ezikeojiaku, 2004), making the end product a practical tool for media professionals.

While criticised for potential oversimplification (Firth, 1961; Halliday, 1978), the theory's focus on convention and context provides the necessary framework for interpreting source language terms and developing culturally-grounded equivalents in the target language (Igbo).



## Alphabetisation Rule in Terminology

Alphabetisation—the systematic arrangement of entries according to alphabetical order—is a cornerstone of lexicographical practice for enabling efficient information retrieval (Landau, 2001; Hartmann & James, 1998). Its application in Igbo lexicography, however, presents unique challenges due to diacritics (e.g., *u*, *i*) and digraphs (e.g., *gb*, *ch*, *gw*), which require modified collation rules (Emenanjo, 1985; Green & Igwe, 1963).

Despite its drawback of scattering semantically related words (Anozie, 2007), its adoption for this dictionary is justified on the grounds of:

- **User-Friendliness:** It allows users of the source language (English) to locate headwords quickly and intuitively.
- **Standardisation:** It aligns the work with global lexicographical conventions, ensuring familiarity and ease of use.
- **Digital Compatibility:** Alphabetical sorting is inherently programmable for potential digital editions.

This work hinges on the use theory of meaning to provide contextually appropriate definition of terms in both the target and source languages, which are English and Igbo respectively, while being guided by the alphabetisation rule to organise head word entries in strict alphabetical order. This alphabeticality will only affect the lexical entries in the source language (SL), while the cultural equivalents in the target language (TL) come directly under their TL counterparts. This aims at making the work both contextually relevant and easily accessible to users and scholars.

## 3. Methodology

This section of the article discusses the research procedure employed in data collection and analysis. The study adopts a qualitative design, focusing on collecting non numerical lexical entries for the development of a specialised Igbo language terminology database for media and communication. Ethnolinguistics and descriptive approaches will be used to review and analyse extant specialised Igbo dictionaries and establish the need for an English-Igbo Media Communication Dictionary. This study centres on linguistics and communication studies and its terminology documentation. Extant media communication terminology as documented by Danesi (2009) and Bystrov and Stynska (eds), (2021), numbering over 10,000 formed the specimen for the study, while a purposive sampling method informed the selection of 50 basic terms more popularly used in the Nigerian media context. Data were collected through primary means by taking notes of how the selected terms are used across some selected broadcast houses in the Southeast, and through secondary means by extracting terms from existing media communication dictionaries. Descriptive approaches were used to analyse some existing Igbo specialised dictionaries and establish the lexicographical gaps, while documenting existing Igbo media communication terms. Lexical entries in the SL were analysed with the parameters provided by the Use Theory of Meaning, to guide the documentation of appropriate cultural equivalents in the TL where available, or the creation of suitable ones were needed. The modified Hartmann 5 step model advocated by this study was used for the sample dictionary compilation, while the lexical entries were arranged in accordance with the alphabetisation rule for the SL while the TL equivalents followed directly under.



#### 4. Data Presentation and Analysis

##### 4.1 Evaluating The State of Specialised Lexicography for Igbo

**Table 1: Comparative analysis of selected extant Igbo specialised dictionaries**

Specialised dictionary	Scope covered	Structure	Relevance
1. Okaasusu Igbo	Technical terminologies and glossaries	Unstructured	Served as template for terminology development in Igbo language.
2. Mbah et al (2013) developed the "Igbo English Igbo Dictionary of Linguistics and Literary Terms	Literature and linguistics terminology	Bilingual, traditional form	Developed a basic Igbo terminology for the fields of linguistics and literature.
3. Nwosu and the IMNG (2010) developed the English/Igbo Translation of Common Medical Terms.	Basic medical terms, assigned Igbo names to some organ systems in the body and some common diseases.	Glossary/textbook format	Provided Igbo nomenclature for about medical terms.
4. Igboanusi and Mbah (Eds) (2017): English - Igbo Glossary of HIV, AIDS and Ebola Related Terms.	Terms associated with Ebola, HIV and AIDS.	Glossary format, unstructured.	Provided about 1500 terms related to Ebola and HIV/AIDS to ease medical diagnosis and enhance patients – health workers communication.
5. Oḳṳwaokwu Ugocha maka umuntakiri	Basic English words and their Igbo cultural equivalents.	Bilingual, traditional format	Serves as a language learning tool for beginner level Igbo language learners.

The table above depicts clearly the current state of terminology development and specialised dictionary compilation in the Igbo language. Literature review conducted revealed that few specialised dictionaries and terminologies exist in the Igbo language. This concurs with the assertions of Mbah, Mbah, Iloene, Okeke and Okeke (2021), who posited that,

In Igbo for example, there are over twenty glossaries and dictionaries. The majority of them are mere collation of Igbo wordlists and their meanings in English. A few of them are specialised dictionaries. *Igbo adi* and the *Dictionary of medical terms* are among the few specialised bipartite-bilingual dictionary currently available in Igbo.





## 4.2 Demonstrate the necessity of an English-Igbo media communication dictionary

The wide gap discovered in the creation of terminologies and specialised dictionaries in the Igbo language, serve to further expose the absence of a media communication dictionary for the language. This analysis justifies the development of an English-Igbo Media Communication Dictionary by delineating its four primary scholarly and practical imperatives. The project is positioned not merely as a reference work but as a critical intervention in the ongoing development of the Igbo language within a specialized domain.

First, the endeavour is contingent upon and will directly facilitate **terminology creation**. It necessitates a dual approach: the systematic documentation of extant terms currently in use by Igbo media practitioners, followed by the strategic coinage of new nomenclature to fill existing lexical gaps. This process is fundamental to establishing a robust and functional terminological base for the field.

Second, the project addresses a pressing need for the **standardisation of terms**. The current practice is characterised by ad-hoc, individualistic coinage by media professionals, resulting in a fragmented and undocumented lexicon that lacks consistency across media houses and academic institutions. The dictionary will serve as a guide towards a centralised, authoritative resource to promote uniformity and standardisation.

Third, the work promises significant **vocabulary development** for the Igbo language at large. The newly created and documented terminology is anticipated to follow the trajectory of previously coined terms in other fields (e.g., *komputa*, *ekwenti*, *ntaneti*), whereby specialist terms gradually permeate and enrich the general lexicon.

Finally, the dictionary will provide a **foundation for further academic inquiry**. By concretely highlighting the extant lacunae in Igbo technical terminology, it is expected to catalyse discourse among media professionals and linguists, thereby generating the interest and academic momentum necessary for subsequent research, critique, and refinement.

In conclusion, these identified needs—terminology creation, standardisation, vocabulary development, and enabling further research—collectively constitute a compelling rationale for the development of an English-Igbo Media Communication Dictionary.

### Objective 3: Propose a sample 50 word English Igbo Media Communication Dictionary as a template for further compilations:

Presented below is a sample English Igbo Media Communication Dictionary, developed following the modified Hartmann 5 step model discussed in 2.4 above, the specifications include:

- a. Orthography: British spellings for the SL entries, Ọnwụ Orthography for the TL entries.
- b. Pronunciation guide: phonemic transcriptions and syllabifications for the SL, fully tonemarked for the TL.
- c. Definitions and usage examples: one sentence definitions and contextual use examples for both TL and SL entries.
- d. Arrangement: fully alphabetised for the TL entries, the SL entries follow head word grouping under its TL equivalents.

Parts of speech: parts of speech provided for both TL and SL entries, in initial letters bracketed (e.g. 'n' for noun) for the TL, SL adopted Mba (2021) model of three initial letters (e.g. 'nkw' for nkwuwa, etc).



## A Sample 50 Words English Igbo Media Communication Dictionary

**Advertisement** /'æd.və.taɪz.mənt/ (n) A paid announcement promoting a product, service, or event. *The company placed an advertisement in the weekend edition.*

**Ozi ahia** /ózi áhīā / (mkp) ozi a kwurū ugwo ya igbasara oha banyere ngwa ahia ma o bu ihe ulorū na-eme. *Ulo oru ahụ tinyere ozi ahia na mbiputa ngwucha izu uka.*

**Anchor** /'æŋ.kə/ (n) A presenter who hosts a news programme. *Chidi Moses is the lead anchor for the 9 PM news.*

**Onye isi emume** /ó.ñé í.sí. é.mú.mé/ (mkp) onye na-achikwa ihe mmemme redio maobu tiivii. *Chidi Moses bu osọ akuko isi maka akuko elekere itoolu nke abali.*

**Beat** /bi:t/ (n) A specific area a reporter is assigned to cover. *Her beat includes education and health.*

**Mpaghara oru** /mpághará órú/ (mkp) udi akuko e kenye onye nta akuko idi na-achuta. *Mpaghara oru ya gunyere agumakwukwo na ahuike.*

**Breaking News** /'brei.kɪŋ nju:z/ (n) Urgent news that interrupts scheduled programming. *We interrupt this programme for breaking news.*

**Akuko oku** /ákúkókókú/ (mkp) akuko daputara n'oku n'oku, dabido ihe mmemme ndi di n'usoro. *Anyi ga-akwusitu mmemme a iwetara gi akuko oku.*

**Broadcast** /'brɒd.kæst/ (v) To transmit a programme by radio or television. *The event will be broadcast live.*

**Gbasaa** /básáá/ (ngw) iweputa ihe mmemme na redio ma o bu na tiivii. *A ga-agbasaa ihe emume a ozugbo n'ikuku.*

**Byline** /'baɪ.laɪn/ (n) A line naming the author of an article. *The piece carried an impressive byline.*

**Ahiri odee** /áhiriódéé / (mkp) Ahiri na-egosi aha ode akuko obula. *Ahiri odee ya bu ederede mara mma nke ukwu.*

**Campaign** /kæm'peɪn/ (n) An organised course of action to achieve a goal. *The presidential campaign dominated coverage.*

**Amuma** /ámùmə/ (mkp) atumatu oru iji nwete ihe a chorọ. *Amuma nta vootu onyeisiala ahụ kpaara onodu akuko niile.*

**Censor** /'sen.sə/ (v) To suppress parts of media content deemed objectionable. *The board may censor films.*

**Kpachie** /kpàchíé/ (ngw) ibichi akuko ma o bu ihe emume nwere ike ibute nsogbu. *Ndi nchikwa nwere ike ikpachi ejije ufodu.*

**Churnalism** /'ʃɜ:.nə.li.zəm/ (n) Journalism that re-writes press releases. *The newspaper was*

**Akuko Ugha** /ákúkó ōghā/ (mkp) akuko emeghi eme ma o bu nduhie a korọ di ka akuko uwa. *A doro oha mmadu aka na nti ka ha ghara ifesa akuko ugha.*

**Feature** /'fi:.ʃər/ (n) A lengthy, in-depth article in a narrative style. *She wrote a feature on the cost of living.*

**Edide nkomi** /édídé íkómí/ (mkp) ederede miri emi e dere n'udi akuko. *O dere edide nkomi banyere onu ahia ibi ndu.*

**Gag Order** /'gæg ɔ:.dər/ (n) A legal order restricting information from being made public. *The judge issued a gag order.*

**Iwu Mbichi Onu** /iwú mbìchí ónó/ (mkp) iwu ulo ikpe tiri ka a ghara igbasa akuko n'oha. *Okaike nyere iwu mbichi onu.*

**Gatekeeping** /'geɪ.ki:.piŋ/ (n) The process of filtering information for dissemination. *Editors play a crucial gatekeeping role.*

**Myocha akuko** /mýòchá ákúkó / (mkp) Usoro inyocha akuko maka akuko obula tupu a gbasaa ya. *Ndi nchikota na-arụ oru izo onu uzọ di oke mkpa.*

**Headline** /'hed.laɪn/ (n) A heading at the top of an article. *The sensational headline attracted readers.*

**Isi Akuko** /ísí ákúkó/ (mkp) isi okwu akuko di na mbido ederede maobu akuko obula. *Isi akuko ahụ dotara otutu ndi oguu.*

**Infotainment** /,ɪn.fəʊ'teɪn.mənt/ (n) Media content that combines information with entertainment. *The show is a popular infotainment programme.*

**Nkuzi Nturu ndu** /ńkúzi ntúrúndù/ (mkp) ihe emume jikotara mgbasaa ozi na ikpa obi oma. *Ihe ngosi ahụ bu mmemme nkuzi nturu ndu a ma ama.*

**Investigative Journalism** /ɪn'ves.tɪ.gə.tɪv 'dʒɜ:.nə.li.zəm/ (n) Journalism that deeply investigates a single topic. *His investigative journalism exposed the scandal.*

**Nnyopu Akuko** /ńnyòpú ákúkó/ (mkp) udi achumta akuko na-enyopute ihe nzuzo niile banyere isiokwu. *Nnyopu akuko ya kpughere ihe aruru ala ahụ.*

**Jingle** /'dʒɪŋ.gəl/ (n) A short, catchy tune used in advertising. *The new jingle is popular on radio.*

**Abu Mgbasa Ozi/jingul** /ábù mgbásá ózì/ (mkp), nkenke ukwe na-adota mmasi e ji agbasaa ozi ahia. *Abu mgbasa ozi ohuru ahụ na-ewu ewu na redio.*

**Libel** /'laɪ.bəl/ (n) A published false statement damaging to a reputation. *The paper was sued for libel.*



*accused of churnalism.*  
**Nrògharị** ozi /njròghári ózì/ (mkp) idegharị ma tinye nnu na ose n'ozì nzipụ ụlọorụ. *A na-ebo ụlọ akwụkwọ akụkọ ahụ ebubo nrògharị akụkọ.*

**Citizen Journalism** /'sit.ɪ.zən 'dʒɜː.nə.li.zəm/ (n) News collection and reporting by the public. *A video from citizen journalism was crucial.*  
**Akụkọ nsinọha** /ákókó ñsìnòhà/ (mkp) akụkọ ụwa ọha na eze ji aka zite. *Vidiyo sitere n'akụkọ nsinọha dị oke mkpa maka ya bụ ihe emume.*

**Correspondent** /kɒr.ɪ'spɒn.dənt/ (n) A reporter who contributes news from a distant location. *Our correspondent in Lagos is reporting.*  
**Ochuta akụkọ** /òchótá ákúkó/ (mkp) *Ochuta akụkọ* na Lagos na-ewetere gi akụkọ a.

**Coverage** /'kʌv.ər.ɪdʒ/ (n) The reporting of a particular event by the media. *The wedding received extensive coverage.*  
**Mwèkọta akụkọ** /m̀wèkótá ákúkó/ (mkp) ụlọ mgbasaa ozi itụtukọta ihe niile mere na mmemme maka akụkọuwa. *Mwèkọta akụkọ agbamakwukwọ ahụ zurunnọọ oke.*

**Editorial** /,ed.ɪ'tɔː.ri.əl/ (n) An article that gives the opinion of the publication. *The newspaper's editorial criticised the policy.*  
**Uche Ndị Nchikọta** /úchè ndí ñchíkótá/ (mkp) Ederede na-egosi ebe ụlọ orụ akwụkwọ mgbasaa ozi kwụ n'ihe na-eme n'obodo. *Uchè ndị nchikọta akwụkwọ akụkọ ahụ katorọ atumatụ iwu ahụ.*

**Exclusive** /'ɪk.sklɪː.sɪv/ (n) A news story reported by only one outlet. *The magazine scored an exclusive interview.*  
**Akụkọ ọpụrịche** /akúkó ɔpɔrɪche/ (mkp) Akụkọ bụ naanị otu ụlọ orụ mgbasaa ozi buru ya. *Magazin ahụ buru akụkọ ọpụrịche banyere agbamakwukwọ nwa gọvanọ.*

**Fake News** /'feɪk 'njuːz/ (n) False or misleading information presented as news. *The public was warned against sharing fake news.*

**Ndetọ** /ndétò/ (mkp) ịgbasa ozi asị na-echu aha. *A gbara akwụkwọ akụkọ ahụ akwụkwọ maka nkwueto.*

**Mass Media** /,mæs 'miː.di.ə/ (n) The main means of mass communication. *The mass media influences public opinion.*  
**Mgbasà Ozi** /m̀gbàsá ózì/ (mkp) ụzọ ndị kacha pụta ihe e si eme ka ọha mere ihe na-aga n'obodo. *Mgbasà ozi na-emetuta echiche ọha mmadụ.*

**Media Blackout** /'miː.di.ə 'blæk.aʊt/ (n) A decision to not publicise certain news events. *There was a complete media blackout.*  
**Mkpuchi Mgbasa Ozi** /mkpuchi m̀gbasaozì/ (mkp) mkpebi izochi ụfọdụ akụkọ. *E nwere mkpuchi mgbasa ozi zuru oke.*

**News** /njuːz/ (n) Newly received information about recent events. *The news of the results was announced.*

**Akụkọ (ụwa)** /ákókó/ (mkp) ozi e nwetere ọhụrụ banyere ihe ndị mere n'ọdịnso. A kọrọ akụkọ banyere okwe ndorondoro ọchịchị ahụ gbaranyu.

**Newscast** /'njuːz.kæst/ (n) A radio or television broadcast of news reports. *Did you watch the ABS 7 PM newscast yesterday?*

**Oge Akụkọ Ụwa** /ógè ákúkó òwà/ (mkp) oge ụlọ orụ redio ma ọ bụ tiivii ji agbasaa akụkọ ụwa. *Ị hụrụ akụkọ ụwa ABS n'elekere asaa nke mgbede unyahụ?*

**Off the Record** /,ɒf ðə 'rek.ɔːd/ (adj) Information not to be attributed to the source. *The official's comments were off the record.*  
**Akpọla aha** /ákpɔlā àhà/ (nkọ). Ama a gaghi akpọ aha onye gbara ya. *Okwu onye orụ goọmentị ahụ bụ nke akpọla aha.*

**Paparazzi** /,pæp.ə'rætiːsi/ (n) Freelance photographers who pursue celebrities. *The paparazzi crowded the actress.*

**Paparazi** /pàpàrázì/ (mkp) ndị nta akụkọ nnọrọonwe na-esogharị ndị a ma ama. *Ndị paparazi gbara ome ejije ahụ gburugburu.*

**Podcast** /'pɒd.kæst/ (n) A digital audio file available online. *His podcast on history is informative.*

**Emume pòdkastị** /émúmé pódkástì/ (mkp) ihe mmemme ọdiyo na-aputa na ntanetị. *Emume pòdkastị akụkọ ala ya na-emeghe otutu mmadụ anya.*

**Press Conference** /'pres ˌkɒn.fər.əns/ (n) A meeting for the press to get information. *The minister called a press conference over.*

**Ọgbakọ ntaakụkọ** /ɔgbakó ntakúkó/ (mkp) nzukọ e ji agbara ndị ntakụkọ ama ihe a choro ka ha gbasaa. *Mịnista kporo ọgbakọ ntaakụkọ.*

**Press Release** /'pres rɪ.liːs/ (n) An official statement issued to newspapers. *The company issued a press release about the CEO's demise.*

**Ọkwa Ụlọ orụ** /ókwa úlóórú/ (mkp) ozi ụlọ orụ zijeere ndị ntaakụkọ maka mgbasaa. *Ụlọ orụ ahụ weputara ọkwa ụlọ orụ banyere onwụ onyeisi ha.*



**Prime Time** /ˌpraɪm ˈtaɪm/ (n) The time period with the largest audience. *The show airs during prime time.*

**Oge Kachasi Mma** /ógē káchāsī mīmā/ (mkp) Oge radio ma ọ bụ tiivii kacha enwete ndị nsonye. *A na-egosi ihe nkiri ahụ n'oge kachasi mma.*

**Propaganda** /ˌprɒp.əˈɡæn.də/ (n) Biased information used to promote a cause. *The leaflets were pure propaganda.*

**Mgbasa atumatu** /mgbàsà átùmatò/ (mkp) ozi akwughị ọtọ a na-agbasa iji kwalite atumatu na ebumnobi ndị ziri ya. *Mpembe akwukwọ ndị ahụ bucha mgbasa atumatu.*

**Public Service Announcement (PSA)** /ˌpʌb.lɪk ˈsɜː.vɪs əˈnaʊns.mənt/ (n) A message in the public interest. *The station aired a PSA from the government.*

**Okwa Odimma Oha** /ókwa òdìmmā òhà/ (mkp) Ụlọ ọrụ radio ahụ gbasara okwa odimma oha si na goomentị.

**Ratings** /ˈreɪ.tɪŋz/ (n) The estimated audience size of a programme. *The series has high ratings.*

**Onuogu ogenti** /ónóǵu ògéntì/ (mkp) mgbakota ndị na-esonyere ihe mmemme. *The nkiri obianizu ahụ nwere onuogu ogenti di elu.*

**Reporter** /rɪˈpɔː.tər/ (n) A person who investigates and writes news stories. *The reporter filed her story.*

**Onye Nta Akukọ** /ónyé ntá ákúkó/ (mkp) Onye ọrụ ya bụ itutukota ma nyochaa akukọ. *Onye nta akukọ ahụ edebatala akukọ ya.*

**Slander** /ˈslæn.dər/ (n) A false spoken statement damaging to a reputation. *The firm sued for slander.*

**Nkwuto** /ńkwútò/ (mkp) Okwu asị e kwupuru iji metọ aha onye ma ọ bụ ụlọ ọrụ. *Ụlọ ọrụ ahụ gbara akwukwọ maka nkwtu.*

**Social Media** /ˌsəʊ.ʃəl ˈmiː.di.ə/ (n) Websites for users to create and share content. *The story went viral on social media.*

**Sosha Midia** /sóshá mǐdià/ (mkp) ọbaazi ọgbaraohuru ga maka nzikorita ozi na mkparitauka ihu na ihu. *Akukọ ahụ gbasara ngwa ngwa na sosho midia.*

**Source** /sɔːs/ (n) A person or document that provides information. *The journalist protected her source.*

**Nsinuta akukọ** /nsinútá ákúkó/ (mkp) onye ma ọ bụ ebe e siri nwete akukouwa. *Onye ntaakukọ ahụ zochiri nsinuta akukọ ya.*

**Spin** /spɪn/ (n) A biased interpretation of an event. *The government's spin was criticised.*

**Nrogghari akukọ** /ńròghárí ákúkó/ (mkp) itinye nnu na ose na-akukọ ihe mere eme. *A katoro nrogghari akukọ goomentị ahụ.*

**Akwukwọ Tabloidị** /ákúkwó táblóídì/ (mkp) Akwukwọ akukọ na-ebukari akukọ mkpali. *Akwukwọ tabloidị ahụ buru akukọ kposara obodo.*

**Talk Show** /ˈtɔːk ʃəʊ/ (n) A programme where people discuss topics. *He was a guest on the talk show.*

**Emume Mkpariita Uka** /emume mkparita uka/ (mkp) Ihe mmemme ebe ndị mmadụ na-etinye onụ n'okwu banyere isiokwu ga. *Ọ bụ obia n'emume mkparita uka ahụ.*

**Trending** /ˈtren.dɪŋ/ (adj) Being discussed frequently on social media. *The hashtag is trending.*

**Iwu ewu** /íwù èwù/ (nkọ) okwu a kpụ n'onụ na ntanetị. *Hashtag ahụ na-ewu ewu.*

**Viral** /ˈvaɪ.rəl/ (adj) Content circulated rapidly on the internet. *How viral was the video?*  
**Ntusa** /ntúsà/ (nkọ) ihe nkiri maobu ozi gbasara aka oku aka oku na ntanetị. *Kedu ka ntusa vidiyo ahụ di?*

**Voice-over** /ˈvɔɪs.əʊ.vər/ (n) Narration not accompanied by an image of the speaker. *The documentary featured a voice-over.*  
**Oguputa** /ógópútá/ (mkp) olu nguputa ederede nke a naghị egosi onye na-agụ ya. *Ihe nkiri akukọ ahụ nwere olu oguputa.*

**Vox Pop** /ˈvɒks pɒp/ (n) Man-on-the-street interviews. *We conducted a vox pop on the issue.*

**Olu Oha** /olu oha/ (mkp) igba ndi na-agafe ụzọ ajuju onụ banyere isiokwu. *Anyi gara nuta olu oha banyere okwu a kpụ n'onu.*

**Watchdog** /ˈwɒtʃ.dɒg/ (n) A person or group that monitors companies or governments. *The media acts as a watchdog.*

**Onyopu** /ònyòpú/ (mkp) Onye ma ọ bụ otu ọrụ ha bụ inyochaputa ihe goomentị ma ọ bụ ụlọ ọrụ ga na-eme. *Ndi ntaakukọ na-arụ ọrụ onyopu n'obodo.*

**Wire Service** /ˈwaɪər ˌsɜː.vɪs/ (n) A news agency that supplies stories to multiple outlets. *The story was from a major wire service.*

**Ulo Mgbere Akukọ** /úlǝmgbērēákúkó/ (mkp) ụlọ akukọ na-ekesara ndi mgbasaozi ndi ọzọ akukọ. *Akukọ ahụ bụ n'otu ulọ mgbere akukọ ka o si gbasaa.*

**Yellow Journalism** /ˌjel.əʊ ˈdʒɜː.nə.lɪ.zəm/ (n) Journalism based on sensationalism. *The paper was known for yellow journalism.*

**Akukọ Mkpali** /akókò mkpali/ (mkp) ntaakukọ bụ sọ maka ikpali oha na eze. *E ji sọ akukọ mkpali mara akwukwọ mgbasa ozi ahụ.*





**Tabloid** /'tæb.lɔɪd/ (n) A newspaper that emphasises sensational stories. *The tabloid published outrageous stories.*

## 5. Conclusion and Recommendation

The findings of this study exposes a wide gap in the creation of terminologies and compilation of specialised dictionaries that meet the language needs of Igbo professionals engaged in different fields including media communication, it reveals the urgent need to fill these gaps by adopting the Hartmann modified 5 step model for the creation of terminologies and specialised Igbo dictionaries in diverse fields, while exemplifying the call with the creation of a sample 50 Word English Igbo Media Communication Dictionary. The study demonstrates that with collaborative efforts, institutional and governmental support, and adequate funding, the compilation of standard Igbo specialised dictionaries is a creative adventure that scholars will find interesting to venture into. Recommendations are made that organisations, institutions, government and private agencies operating within Igbo land, including media houses should deem it fit to collaborate and partner with Igbo language scholars and lexicographers in the creation of specialised Igbo dictionaries, not only as a means of rendering facilitating customer communication, but also as part of their corporate social responsibilities in promoting the culture, identity and wellbeing of their host communities.

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