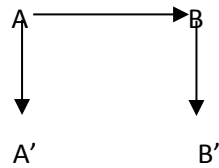


The Trilateral Process as Illustrated by the Phonology of Cameroon English

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In this study, which is meant to be a contribution to the investigation into new Englishes, the *trilateral process* is a three-sided phenomenon whereby AA' represents the change in Inner Circle English (RP used here as a reference) from the underlying representation (UR) A to the surface form (SF) A', AB the change of A to a parallel *New English* (in this case Cameroon English), UR B, and BB' the rules of the *New English* which generate *New English* surface forms B'. The *Trilateral Process* in its original format is schematically represented as follows:



Going beyond the findings of previous authors who have limited themselves to a surface-to-surface analysis, this paper explores all the sides of the phenomenon under study, an approach which proves more economical, better shows similarities and differences between varieties of English and, above all, casts more light on the autonomy of the phonology of Cameroon English.