OUR PHILIPPINE ENGLISH

by:
Bingo B. Dela Cruz

Language is our primary way of communicating with others. Through this, we can transfer and receive information. Black (2019) mentioned that words play a vital part in our lives and are therefore deserving of focus and attention. Yes, we had known a lot but understood too little about it.

One of the misconceptions of people about language is that we think we own the language. People of any race do not have the right to call it their own. In this case, let us take a closer look at the international language of the world- English. This language is used in almost every part of the world. Truth is, countries have developed their own kind of English.

In the Philippines, we have created our own type of English- Philippine English. There are also misconceptions about it. Filipinos themselves are perceiving it as a low type of English. In fact, when you sound like a Filipino speaking English, people might laugh at you. However, the most important factor in the language is its intelligibility (Bautista, 2004). For as long as we can understand each other, regardless of our accent, then no one should degrade anyone.

Therefore, we should not be ashamed to have a unique accent while speaking, nor feel inferior just because we do not sound like a native speaker of English. We should be proud as Filipinos and tell the world that we have our Philippine English.

References: