

# The New Senior Secondary Curriculum for Sierra Leone

## Subject Syllabus for Krio Language

Subject stream: Languages and Literature



This subject syllabus is based on the National Curriculum Framework for Senior Secondary Education. It was prepared by national curriculum specialists and subject experts.



## Curriculum Elements for Krio Language

### Subject Description

As a subject, Krio in Senior Secondary School (SSS) builds on pupil's knowledge of Krio that they gained in Junior Secondary School (JSS). However, Krio at SSS focuses on aspects of the history and the life of the Krios and their language, paying attention to their traditional life and cultural practices as well as the grammatical structure of the language, ranging from word formation, parts of speech, phrases and clause formations including their functions, sentence structure and types, and other aspects of language. The course focuses on pupils' ability to read and comprehend Krio passages. Finally, the course prepares students to be able to speak in Krio and write sentences, essays and larger texts in Krio, in such forms as narrative, descriptive, expository, and argumentative, etc.

### Rationale for the Inclusion of Krio in the Senior Secondary School Curriculum

1. To improve pupils' knowledge of Krio.
2. To provide Sierra Leonean pupils the platform to relate real life experiences via Krio.
3. The teaching of Krio will enable pupils to develop a critical mindset to reassess their estimation of Sierra Leone via one of its own national languages.
4. Knowledge of Krio culture will come alive when pupils begin to explore Krio readers and grammar texts.
5. The teaching of Krio contributes to the achievement of some key objectives contained in the UNESCO Charter (as a continuation of the work begun at JSS).
6. The teaching of Krio in SSS will reinvigorate the intellectual atmosphere around Sierra Leonean languages which had dissipated long ago.

### General Learning Outcomes (Broad Goals)

The course will enable pupils to:

1. strengthen their ability to understand, speak, read, and write in Krio
2. increase their knowledge of texts, stories, proverbs, and idioms in Krio
3. raise their awareness of Krio orthography
4. increase their knowledge of Krio vowels, consonants, etc.
5. strengthen their ability to sample the creative thinking process using Krio alongside other languages
6. enhance their competency to apply knowledge in practical and real-life situations with the help of Krio
7. engage in the rebirth of Sierra Leonean cultural heritage as it is reflected in Krio
8. raise their awareness of Sierra Leonean languages and more easily understand the grammar of other languages
9. challenge stereotypical views on language status in Sierra Leone and the relevance of language to its people
10. develop their communicative skills using Krio
11. see different worlds as they exist in Krio
12. prepare for further study and careers in Krio



## Content (Topics/ Themes)

### Introduction to Sierra Leonean Languages

- The language situation in Sierra Leone
- Language demographics in Sierra Leone
- The role of Krio as a lingua franca in Sierra Leone
- The four national languages
- Community languages, diglossia, and multilingualism

### The Krios of Sierra Leone

- History of the Krios
- The distribution of Krios
- Life of the Krios
- Sociolinguistic situations of Krio
- The Krio language: origin and classification
- Krio dialects
- Geographical locations of Krio dialects

### Writing System of Krio

- Krio orthography
- Krio vowels
- Krio consonants
- Krio digraphs

### Krio Phonology

- Krio sounds
- Krio vowel sounds
- Krio consonant sounds
- Krio diphthongs

### Connected Speech in Krio

- Consonant clusters and digraphs
- Identification of consonants and vowels
- Rapid and slow speech
- Tones in Krio

- Stress in Krio
- Nasalization in Krio
- Sound lengthening in Krio

### Exploring Krio Morphology

- Identification of roots and affixes
- Prefixes
- Suffixes
- Forming words using roots and affixes

### Krio Parts of Speech

- Introduction to the parts of speech
- Nouns
- Pronouns
- Verbs
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Idiophones
- Prepositions
- Conjunctions
- Idioms

### Krio Nouns

- Definitions
- Classification
- Functions
- Morphological features (number, case, person and gender)
- Plurals of nouns
- Possessives of nouns
- Determiners of nouns
- Identification of nouns in sentences
- Using nouns in phrases, clauses and sentences



### **Krio Verbs**

- Definition verbs
- Classification of verbs
- Action and stative verbs
- Regular and irregular verbs
- Transitive and intransitive verbs
- Main and auxiliary verbs
- Syntactic structure of verbs
- Morphological features of verbs (voice, mood, number and case)
- Identification of verbs in a sentences
- Verb serialization
- Using verbs in phrases, clauses and sentences

### **Krio Pronouns**

- Definitions of pronouns
- Types of pronouns
- Features of pronouns (number, person, gender and case)
- Identification of pronouns in sentences
- Using pronouns in phrases, clauses and sentences

### **Krio Adjectives**

- Definitions of adjectives
- Types of adjectives
- Classification of adjectives
- Syntactic structure of adjectives
- Forms of adjectives
- Comparing adjectives
- Identification of adjectives in sentences
- Using adjectives in phrases, clauses and sentences

### **Krio Adverbs**

- Definitions of adverbs
- Types of adverbs
- Syntactic structures of adverbs

- Forms of adverbs
- Comparing adverbs
- Functions of adverbs
- Identification of adverbs
- Using adverbs in phrases, clauses and sentences

### **Krio Idiophones**

- Definition of idiophones
- Functions of idiophones
- Nature of idiophones
- Forms of idiophones
- Types of idiophones
- Using idiophones in sentences

### **Krio Prepositions**

- Definitions of prepositions
- Nature of prepositions
- Types of prepositions
- Forms of prepositions
- Functions of prepositions
- Identification of prepositions
- Using prepositions in phrases, clauses and sentences

### **Krio Conjunctions**

- Definitions of conjunctions
- Types of conjunctions
- Forms of conjunctions
- Functions of conjunctions
- Identifying conjunctions
- Using conjunctions in clauses and sentences

### **Krio Tenses and Aspects**

Understanding tenses and aspects

- Past
  - Simple past



- Past continuous
- Past perfect
- Past perfect continuous
- Present tenses
  - Simple present
  - Present perfect
  - Present continuous tense
  - Present perfect continuous
- Future tenses
  - Future simple
  - Future continuous
  - Future perfect
  - Future perfect continuous

#### **Krio Composition**

- Defining compositions
- Elements of compositions
- Types of compositions
- Functions of composition types

#### **Reading, Summary and Comprehension in Krio**

- Definitions of reading, summary and comprehension
- Types of reading, summary and comprehension
- Features of reading, summary and comprehension
- Functions of reading, summary and comprehension

#### **Krio Sentences and Clauses**

- Definitions of the sentence and the clause
- Parts of the sentence

#### **Books, Authors & Publishers**

- a) **History:** Alie (1990), History of Sierra Leone, McCulloch (1950), People of Sierra Leone in Western Africa Part 1 Ethnographic Survey of Africa (ed) Daryl Forde, International African Institute, London; A Visual Geography of Sierra Leone, Awoonor-Renner (1971),

- Parts of the clause
- The subject and the predicate
- Simple subjects and compound subjects
- Simple predicates and compound predicates
- Sentences by structure
- Sentences by purposes
- Verb tenses
- Clefting and types of clefting
- Using Krio sentences

#### **Krio Vocabulary and Sense Relations**

- Counting in Krio
- Krio days of the week
- Krio months of the year
- Synonyms
- Antonyms
- Hyponymy
- Homonymy
- Polysemy
- Idioms
- Proverbs
- Cliches
- Frozen Forms
- Formulas
- Figures of speech (similes, metaphors, personifications, hyperbole, alliteration, metonymy, irony and apostrophe)



- b) **Grammar:** A Krio-English Dictionary, Fyle and Jones Oxford. Oxford University Press (1980), A Source for Four Sierra Leonean Languages NCDC (1993); The Linguistic Situation in Sierra Leone (Unpublished BA Hons. thesis submitted to the Department of Linguistics FBC USL), A. Jalloh, (1996); The Case for an Official National Language in Sierra Leone, (Unpublished M.Phil. thesis submitted to the Linguistics Unit Department of Language Studies FBC USL), A Jalloh (2003).
- c) **Readers:** Read JSS texts and readers by Lekon, etc., until more are produced.

## Structure of the Syllabus Over the Three Year Senior Secondary School Cycle

|        | SSS 1  | SSS 2   | SSS 3  |
|--------|--|---|--|
| Term 1 | <p><b>Introduction to Sierra Leonean Languages</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The language situation in Sierra Leone</li> <li>Language demographics in Sierra Leone</li> <li>The role of Krio as a lingua franca in Sierra Leone</li> <li>The four national languages</li> <li>Community languages, diglossia, and multilingualism</li> </ul> <p><b>The Krios of Sierra Leone</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>History of the Krios</li> <li>The distribution of Krios</li> <li>Life of the Krios</li> <li>Sociolinguistic situations of Krio</li> <li>The Krio language: origin and classification</li> <li>Krio dialects</li> <li>Geographical locations of Krio dialects</li> </ul> <p><b>Writing System of Krio</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Krio orthography</li> </ul> | <p><b>Krio Verbs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition verbs</li> <li>Classification of verbs</li> <li>Action and stative verbs</li> <li>Regular and irregular verbs</li> <li>Transitive and intransitive verbs</li> <li>Main and auxiliary verbs</li> <li>Syntactic structure of verbs</li> <li>Morphological features of verbs (voice, mood, number and case)</li> <li>Identification of verbs in a sentences</li> <li>Verb serialization</li> <li>Using verbs in phrases, clauses and sentences</li> </ul> <p><b>Krio Pronouns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definitions of pronouns</li> <li>Types of pronouns</li> <li>Features of pronouns (number, person, gender and case)</li> <li>Identification of pronouns in sentences</li> </ul> | <p><b>Krio Conjunctions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definitions of conjunctions</li> <li>Types of conjunctions</li> <li>Forms of conjunctions</li> <li>Functions of conjunctions</li> <li>Identifying conjunctions</li> <li>Using conjunctions in clauses and sentences</li> </ul> <p><b>Krio Tenses and Aspects</b><br/>Understanding tenses and aspects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Past <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simple past</li> <li>Past continuous</li> <li>Past perfect</li> <li>Past perfect continuous</li> </ul> </li> <li>Present tenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simple present</li> <li>Present perfect</li> <li>Present continuous tense</li> <li>Present perfect continuous</li> </ul> </li> <li>Future tenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future simple</li> <li>Future continuous</li> <li>Future perfect</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |



|               |   |  |  |
|---------------|---|--|--|
|               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Krio vowels</li> <li>• Krio consonants</li> <li>• Krio digraphs</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using pronouns in phrases, clauses, and sentences</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Future perfect continuous</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Term 2</b> | <p><b>Krio Phonology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Krio sounds</li> <li>• Krio vowel sounds</li> <li>• Krio consonant sounds</li> <li>• Krio diphthongs</li> </ul> <p><b>Connected Speech in Krio</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consonant clusters and digraphs</li> <li>• Identification of consonants and vowels</li> <li>• Rapid and slow speech</li> <li>• Tones in Krio</li> <li>• Stress in Krio</li> <li>• Nasalization in Krio</li> <li>• Sound lengthening in Krio</li> </ul> <p><b>Exploring Krio Morphology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of roots and affixes</li> <li>• Prefixes</li> <li>• Suffixes</li> <li>• Forming words using roots and affixes</li> </ul> | <p><b>Krio Adjectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definitions of adjectives</li> <li>• Types of adjectives</li> <li>• Classification of adjectives</li> <li>• Syntactic structure of adjectives</li> <li>• Forms of adjectives</li> <li>• Comparing adjectives</li> <li>• Identification of adjectives in sentences</li> <li>• Using adjectives in phrases, clauses, and sentences</li> </ul> <p><b>Krio Adverbs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definitions of adverbs</li> <li>• Types of adverbs</li> <li>• Syntactic structures of adverbs</li> <li>• Forms of adverbs</li> <li>• Comparing adverbs</li> <li>• Functions of adverbs</li> <li>• Identification of adverbs</li> <li>• Using adverbs in phrases, clauses and sentences</li> </ul> | <p><b>Krio Composition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defining compositions</li> <li>• Elements of compositions</li> <li>• Types of compositions</li> <li>• Functions of composition types</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading, Summary and Comprehension in Krio</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definitions of reading, summary and comprehension</li> <li>• Types of reading, summary and comprehension</li> <li>• Features of reading, summary and comprehension</li> <li>• Functions of reading, summary and comprehension</li> </ul> |
| <b>Term 3</b> | <p><b>Krio Parts of Speech</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the parts of speech</li> <li>• Nouns</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Krio Idiophones</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of idiophones</li> <li>• Functions of idiophones</li> <li>• Nature of idiophones</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Krio Sentences and Clauses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definitions of the sentence and the clause</li> <li>• Parts of the sentence</li> </ul>   |



- Pronouns
- Verbs
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Idiophones
- Prepositions
- Conjunctions
- Idioms

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- Possessives of nouns
- Determiners of nouns
- Identification of nouns in sentences
- Using nouns in phrases, clauses, and sentences

- Forms of idiophones
- Types of idiophones
- Using idiophones in sentences

#### **Krio Prepositions**

- Definitions of prepositions
- Nature of prepositions
- Types of prepositions
- Forms of prepositions
- Functions of prepositions
- Identification of prepositions
- Using prepositions in phrases, clauses, and sentences

- Parts of the clause
- The subject and the predicate
- Simple subjects and compound subjects
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## Teaching Syllabus

| Topic/ Theme/ Unit   | Expected learning outcomes   | Recommended teaching methods  | Suggested resources   |  | Assessment of learning outcomes   |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Sierra Leonean Languages</li> <li>• The Krios of Sierra Leone</li> <li>• Writing System of Krio</li> <li>• Krio Phonology</li> <li>• Connected Speech in Krio</li> <li>• Exploring Krio Morphology</li> <li>• Krio Parts of Speech</li> <li>• Krio Nouns</li> <li>• Krio Verbs</li> <li>• Krio Pronouns</li> <li>• Krio Adjectives</li> <li>• Krio Adverbs</li> <li>• Krio Idiophones</li> <li>• Krio Prepositions</li> <li>• Krio Conjunctions</li> <li>• Krio Tenses and Aspects</li> <li>• Krio Composition</li> <li>• Reading, Summary and Comprehension in Krio</li> <li>• Krio Sentences and Clauses</li> </ul> | <p>The course will enable pupils to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. strengthen their ability to understand, speak, read, and write in Krio</li> <li>2. increase their knowledge of texts, stories, proverbs, and idioms in Krio</li> <li>3. raise their awareness of Krio orthography.</li> <li>4. increase their knowledge of Krio vowels, consonants, etc.</li> <li>5. strengthen their ability to sample the creative thinking process using Krio alongside other languages.</li> <li>6. enhance their competency to apply knowledge in practical and real-life situations with the help of Krio.</li> <li>7. engage in the rebirth of Sierra Leonean cultural heritage as it is reflected in Krio.</li> <li>8. raise their awareness of Sierra Leonean languages and more easily understand the grammar of other languages</li> <li>9. challenge stereotypical views on language status in Sierra Leone and the relevance of language to its people.</li> <li>10. develop their communicative skills using Krio.</li> </ol> | <p>Face-to-face teaching</p> <p>Online face-to-face teaching</p> <p>Teach techniques on seminar writing</p> <p>Teach practical criticisms</p> <p>Immersive learning within selected Krio speech communities</p> | <p>See the list given above under Books, Authors &amp; Publishers</p> |  | <p>Pupils will be assessed using but not limited to the following assessment methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Homework</li> <li>2. Tests</li> <li>3. Subjective Tests</li> <li>4. Cloze Tests</li> <li>5. Register/ Frames</li> <li>6. Presentations</li> <li>7. Interpretations</li> <li>8. Own Writing</li> <li>9. Field Work</li> <li>10. Examinations</li> </ol> <p>It is proposed that 30% of the overall score will be allocated to</p> |



|   |   |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Krio Vocabulary and Sense Relations</li></ul> | 11. see different worlds as they exist in Krio.<br>12. prepare for further study and careers in Krio. |  |  |  | assessment methods 1-9, with 70% allocated to examination results (total of 100%). |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|

