

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE INFLUENCE AND THE PROCESS OF NAMING PEOPLE:  
Anthroponimic analysis of Letras students names who enrolled in the selection process  
2019, Campus Altamira-Pará**

*Adrielle Wandello de Souza Alves*  
Universidade Federal do Pará  
wandello27@gmail.com

*Profa. M.Sc. Gizélia Maria da Silva Freitas*  
Universidade Federal do Pará  
gfreitas@ufpa.br

**ABSTRACT:** In this study, we intend to analyze the first names of anglophone origin in the enrollment list of Letras – Língua Inglesa and Letras – Língua Portuguesa in 2019 from Universidade Federal do Pará, Altamira Campus. The purpose of this paper is to understand the motivations behind the nominating process of previously selected students through a survey about the possible meanings of their first names in light of the hypothesis of influences coming from the English Language and other subjective aspects that can be analyzed within onomastic studies. As a quantitative-qualitative methodological instrument for data collection, a semi-structured interview was conducted with the target subjects of this research aged 18 to 35 years, 6 men and 4 women. Therefore, from these results, it is possible to measure some motivations and elements that may have influenced the choice of these anthroponyms by parents to their children, eventually changing the spelling and phonological adaptations by Portuguese speakers, as well as unconscious additions of Splinters in male names.

**Keywords:** First names. Naming. Foreignism. Anthroponyms.

**RESUMO:** Neste estudo, pretendemos analisar os nomes próprios de origem anglófona na lista de matriculados dos cursos de Letras - Língua Inglesa e Letras - Língua Portuguesa de 2019 da Universidade Federal do Pará, Campus de Altamira. O objetivo deste artigo é compreender as motivações por trás do processo de nomeação dos estudantes previamente selecionados através de um levantamento a cerca dos possíveis significados dos seus nomes próprios à luz da hipótese de influências advindas da Língua Inglesa e demais aspectos subjetivos que podem ser analisados dentro dos estudos onomásticos. Como instrumento metodológico quanti-qualitativo para a coleta de dados, foi realizada uma entrevista semi-estruturada com os sujeitos-alvo desta pesquisa com idades entre 18 a 35 anos sendo, 6 homens e 4 mulheres. Deste modo, a partir destes resultados, é possível mensurar algumas motivações e elementos que podem ter influenciado a escolha destes antropônimos por parte dos pais aos seus filhos havendo, eventualmente, mudanças na ortografia e adaptações fonológicas por falantes de Língua Portuguesa, bem como adições inconscientes de *Splinters* em nomes masculinos.

**Palavras-chave:** Nomes próprios. Nomeação. Estrangeirismo. Antropônimos.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In agreement with Ferreira et al (1999, p. 840) foreignism stands out as constructions of foreign origin and the use of words and phrases where the welcoming language of these foreignisms, in this case the Portuguese Language, acts as a 'cradle', of which It is subject to

modifications, adaptations, and adoptions by speakers, especially when it comes to people's names, something so personal and mutable that it does not always lead to reflection and questioning by the nominee for being so common in our society.

Even though we are not sure when they first came to name the first elements in humanity, it is well known that everything we know during our lifetime has a name or at least one definition that describes it so that we can minimally understand how such an element behaves or is useful to us. However, in the face of these everyday events, we do not usually wonder why such a name has been placed on such a thing. When we speak specifically of people's names, it is no different given the need for humans to differentiate themselves from each other as part of the same context by being considered citizens in a particular place from the registration of persons through their names designated by their parents as it is in Brazil.

The naming as well as the linguistic changes mainly emphasize valuing aspects of the foreign language that make parents arouse a desire, often unconscious, to use names considered beautiful and differentiated in their children. Given this, this study will seek to understand the causes of linguistic changes and make brief reflections, especially about the social context of anthroponyms adhered to the target subjects that will be analyzed in this research.

## **1 ANGLOPHONE SUPREMACY AND ANTHROPONYMY**

When we think of foreignism, it immediately comes to mind the idea of terms or expressions from other languages that are often used in Brazil today. However, its conception becomes much broader, considering that its origins and influences in each moment of the history of the language on the Brazilian Portuguese occur in different ways. Many linguists point out that all languages have their importance and carry with them traits that tell us a lot about their culture, history, and others. Garcez and Zilles (2004) drew a very clear definition of this:

Foreignism is the use, in the language of a community, of elements from other languages. In the Brazilian case, simply put, it would be the use of foreign words and expressions in Portuguese. It is a constant phenomenon in the contact between linguistic communities, also called loan words.<sup>1</sup> (GARCEZ; ZILLES, 2004, p. 15).

Following this conception, at different times in world history as a whole, there are always countries and cultures that stand out from others for many reasons, whether political, economic or imposed by territorial conflicts and wars where there is a strong instrument of domination and/or persuasion in a certain community, the language. An important aspect of this discussion is part of what is meant by "dominant" or even "prestige" language. In other words, what language plays the leading role when it comes to social and cultural influence over others?

First of all, it is necessary to take into account the historical and geopolitical scenario of the language to be approached, because, at different times, one or more languages are considered as having the greatest potential and quickly become better seen by society. For example, French in Brazil is considered as a language that brings greater refinement and sophistication to those who use it, very common in the gastronomy used throughout the world where several menus and restaurants are named with terms derived from the French, such as,

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<sup>1</sup> Free translation. From now on, all translations are the responsibility of the author of this paper.

*escargot* and *foie gras*. English is considered as a jovial and innovative language (FIORIN, 2004, p.120) commonly used in the advertising world, terms such as outdoor, sale and delivery are seen daily by the Brazilian citizen in the city where he/she lives as emphasized Trask (2004, p. 219).

Not only the terms but also the aesthetics and the spelling are taken into account when elaborating something attractive to the consumer and using a correspondent in the mother language of each country can bring a symbolic loss of the value-added in that item. For Monteiro (2002) this has much to tell us about our culture and the culture we see in other people, "noting the preference for letters that may give foreign origin to the product since perhaps the collective unconscious of Brazilians devalues the national brands."<sup>2</sup>

Whether by imitation or identification, Paiva (1991) explains that English plays a role of a high-value commodity in the globalized world and emphasizes that the practice of adopting new words of foreign origin is not directly related to the need to name things but to propagate social and cultural identification with a language of greater power and prestige. This leads us to an important point about foreignism in Brazil, where, recently, several attempts to intervene to these new terms arising from another language, more specifically, from English, have arisen with the intention of containing this foreign interference that some believe be very harmful to Portuguese.

Starting from a more traditionalist thinking, one of the most symbolic representations of these attempts to contain the advances of foreignism was the law resolution n<sup>o</sup>. 1676/99, approved in December 2007 by the House Constitution and Justice Commission (Comissão de Constituição e Justiça da Câmara), by Bill of Congressman Aldo Rebelo (PCdoB / SP), which "It deals with the promotion, protection, defense and use of the Portuguese"<sup>3</sup> bringing to the fore a recurrent polemic on this subject. Consequently, several linguists expressed themselves and even mocked the position of the parliamentarian.

In this sense, Rajagopalan (2003, p. 94) states that "It is necessary, however, to ask whether there are cases which really justify defending the purism of a given language in the name of imminent external danger"<sup>4</sup> which was one of the points that Aldo Rebelo used as an argument to justify his project:

Thus, many scholars refute the justification of "danger", Schmitz (2001, p. 104) states that loan words from other languages act as enrichers for those which adopt and declares that, they are open to interculturalities and changes in view of the fact that, the Portuguese already has its culture and consuetude very well emancipated and powerful, and points out "the presence of foreignism in the Portuguese in no way threat to Brazilian culture, broadly defined as literature, music, theater, folklore, and dance".<sup>5</sup>

Furthermore, Crystal (2005, p. 139) classifies changes in the language as a "natural process". Therefore, we need to stop seeing this process negatively or as a process of depreciation. "[...] Change is inevitable, continuous, universal and multidirectional. Languages do not improve or worsen when you change. They only change".<sup>6</sup> Consequently, the loan words provoke reactions regarding the identities that the subject, Portuguese common speaker and member of a determined social group or class, can acquire. According to Trask

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<sup>2</sup> Free translation: notando-se a preferência pelas letras que possam conotar procedência estrangeira ao produto, já que talvez o inconsciente coletivo dos brasileiros desvalorize as marcas nacionais.

<sup>3</sup> Free translation: Dispõe sobre a promoção, a proteção, a defesa e o uso da Língua Portuguesa.

<sup>4</sup> Free translation.

<sup>5</sup> Free translation.

<sup>6</sup> Free translation.

(2004, p. 164) many social and linguistic behaviors can be understood from this identification with the language.

Indeed, different groups in society can interpret these "identifications" of certain language speakers or from those who are directly influenced by it (GARCEZ; ZILLES, 2004, p. 15-16). However, we can highlight that in the midst of these conflicts, what stands out is whether the language itself is impaired or not:

Language is a democratic tool and must remain so, thus, there is no law capable of abolishing the use of loan words. Language scholars, especially the fewer traditionalists, defend foreignisms, **as long as** they do not interfere with communication, the main function of language. (PEREZ, 2019)<sup>7</sup>

In view of the diverse contexts behind this concern of the parliamentarian and consequently of the linguists, we have some important points to be analyzed within the processes of identification of the subjects that make up a society structured linguistically or that receive many foreign interferences, be they political, economic or cultural. One of these points, we can highlight the identity issues that supposedly develop after meeting these foreignisms, generating a strong sympathy with these new ideas or even rejection that can occur naturally when one takes into account the plurality of personality that we can perceive within the same territory.

When we talk about Brazil, this becomes even more common for what we know about our peoples, even if we tap into the states of the federation. Within the same state, such as Pará, for example, we can identify different cultural expressions, cuisine, accents and different ways of life, varying from city to city. More conservative citizens defend the preservation of traditions, but to what extent should we close ourselves to new external influences with the justification that there will be a significant loss of our values?

Woodward (2000, p. 22) uses the term "identity in crisis" to discuss these supposed unconsolidated and destabilized identities in the face of mobility and movement of capital and population, resulting in a loss of identity and consequently the emergence of multiculturalism and diversity of ideas.

According to Trask (2004, p. 219), the Portuguese language was formed from "languages of peoples who, together with the Portuguese, participated in the formation of the population of the country: Indigenous people, African slaves, and European immigrants."<sup>8</sup> Moreover, several events throughout the process of formation of the Portuguese had the contribution or interference of many cultures, values, and symbols coming from these people who participated actively in the colonization:

Brazil, because of its history of colonization, had contact with different nationalities and was a stage of interaction between several races, because the Portuguese and the Spanish, in a true 'holocaust', brought from the African continent to the New World [...]. Later in the 19th and 20th centuries, immigrants from Europe, the Middle East, and Asia were brought to the country to work in the fields and factories. Brazil is by

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<sup>7</sup> Free translation: A língua é uma ferramenta democrática e assim deve permanecer, portanto, não há lei que seja capaz de abolir o uso dos empréstimos linguísticos. Os estudiosos da linguagem, sobretudo os menos tradicionalistas, defendem os estrangeirismos, **desde que** eles não atrapalhem a comunicação, função primordial da linguagem.

<sup>8</sup> Free translation.

no means a closed country, ruled by a distrust of the 'foreigner' by large segments of the population<sup>9</sup> (SCHMITZ, 2004, p. 101).

In the same way, in Brazilian Portuguese, loan words from other languages is an old fact, due to its historical context and because of the globalization process, mainly, from English after the Second World War where the United States acquired greater economic, military and political power (RAJAGOPALAN, 2005).

Currently, "English is, undoubtedly, the most important international language in the world"<sup>10</sup>, playing a prominent role in several areas of society, being essential when thinking about technology, innovation, science, and communication, as says Trask (2004, p. 168), as well as Infante (2001, p.193) points out that, in the Brazilian Portuguese "the largest source of loans source is North American English". For Trask (2004), especially people for whom it is not a mother language consider as an international language when it is widely used for countless purposes by individuals from different countries.

On the other hand, no language is immune to loan words or adaptations. Languages are always in constant change, because, indeed, the language says a lot about the individuals who speak it the language follows the evolution of its speakers and the society in which they live, Crystal (2005) explains that "language changes because of social changes"<sup>11</sup>. Carvalho (1989, p. 22) agrees that language is in "permanent expansion" when compared to a galaxy in constant transition, incorporating the experiences and contributions of a society.

Carvalho (1989, p. 23) adds that:

[...] the new terms, because of linguistic creativity, are also a consequence of human creativity in other areas. The neologisms created in the artistic, scientific and technological sectors have the objective of offering new concepts about the universe and thus, accompanying human evolution.<sup>12</sup>

Media is a disseminating agent of these foreignisms by the English language, Carvalho (1989) states that the media is the access route of numerous modifications of the language, emphasizing that the linguistic identity happens mainly through the globalization, language is in the center of this information network passed almost entirely between people who make use of televisions and the internet.

In the process of globalization, the United States has established increasingly common patterns in Brazilian society, which day after day has been adopted by the media, advertisements, newspapers, and mainly by merchants and businessmen. Following Prado (2011, p. 17), in recent years, it has been observed that merchants make a "North American" style of commercializing goods and services, that is, even if the word "*liquidação*" exists in Portuguese, the option to use the word "sale" in this context is a matter of merchants' style in an attempt to value their products.

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<sup>9</sup> Free translation: O Brasil, por conta de sua história de colonização, teve contato com diferentes nacionalidades e foi um palco de interação entre varias raças, pois os portugueses e os espanhóis, num verdadeiro 'holocausto', trouxeram do continente africano ao Novo Mundo [...]. Mais tarde no século XIX e XX, chegaram ao país, imigrantes da Europa, do Oriente Médio e da Ásia para trabalhar no campo e nas fábricas. O Brasil, de modo algum, é um país fechado, pautado por uma desconfiança do 'estrangeiro' por parte de grandes segmentos da população.

<sup>10</sup> Free translation.

<sup>11</sup> Free translation.

<sup>12</sup> Free translation: [...] os termos novos, como resultantes da criatividade linguística, são também consequência da criatividade humana nos outros campos. Os neologismos criados no setor artístico, científico e tecnológico têm o objetivo de oferecer novos conceitos sobre o universo e assim acompanhar a evolução humana.

Garcez and Zilles (2004) about this, draw our attention to the effect of capitalism and consumerism on the use of symbols and resources regarded as more attractive to the consumer, a strong persuasive element:

The appeal of the globalizing capitalist machine is too strong for the media of information, entertainment, and especially, advertising to be able or unwilling to exploit the semiotic associations between the English language and the enormous repository of symbolic, economic, and social resources it mid. In a society such as Brazil, in which the disparity in the consumption capacity of citizens is immense, and where the social class of consumers suffers from great social insecurity and if one looks at a pattern of consumption, North American or European, it is not surprising that Anglicism lends itself to mark the competitive differentiation between who has this symbolic capital and the non-consumer mass.<sup>13</sup> (GARCEZ; ZILLES, 2004: 22-23)

In the region of the Transamazon highway, many identity processes can be identified due to their large events of external origin through projects of explorations caused by the energy industry, opening of roads, among others. After many works in our region, there are inevitable reactions, such as a great flow of people from all over the world in search of job opportunities and a better life. From the moment that these people decided to move from their origins, they bring with them such aspects as language and accent, beliefs, culture, habits, cooking, among other characteristics present in all the individuals that are part of our society, according to Woodward (2000, p. 21 – 22).

The supremacy of the English language influences the creation of neologisms, the insertion of foreign terms, the substitution of simple words of the Portuguese language as well as influences the namination of people.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

Initially, we focused on data collection that will be described and analyzed in this study. Therefore, the collection of data was carefully carried out from the list of approved in the selection process for the course of Letras – Língua Inglesa as well Letras – Língua Portuguesa, Altamira campus with entry into 2019.

We considered names with elements derived from the English Language, any name that was entirely in English (in form or origin) or that mixed anglophone elements with items of Brazilian Portuguese. A survey was made about the possible meanings of the personal names targeted by this study, the results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 - Letras (Portuguese and English) Undergraduate Students' names and their composition and meaning

(continue on next page)

NAMES	COMPOSITION	MEANING
ANDREILSON	Andre + ilson	ANDRE: from Greek <i>andros</i> = “male, virile”; from English = Andrew. ILSON: Splinter* SON: ‘filho de’
ASHYLEM	-	Variant of Ashley.

<sup>13</sup> Free translation.

		ASHLEY (Saxon): The lea, field, or pasture abound-ing in ash-trees. Uncultivated grounds or pastures; lands untilled, generally used as commons.
CARLOS	-	Carlos: from English = Charles CHARLES: carl, strong, stout, courageous, valiant.
CLEISON	Clei + son	CLEI: from English = clay; In Welsh and British: ditch, a trench, a wall. SON: ' <i>filho de</i> ' "patronymic from the personal name Classe, a short form of Nicholas. The name may have been imported to England in the Middle Ages by Flemish weavers. As an American surname, it has probably absorbed some cases of Dutch Claassen and its variants"
CLEITON	Clei + ton	CLEI: from English = clay; In Welsh and British: ditch, a trench, a wall. TON: from English = town. "From a surname that was originally derived from various English place names, all meaning "clay settlement" in Old English"
DENILSON	Den + ilson	DEN = Dan: "one who judges, Judge" ILSON: Splinter* SON: ' <i>filho de</i> ' DANIELS (Hebraic): Daniel signifies the judgment of God, the S added, being a contraction of Son, the son of Daniel. This name does not correspond to any form, although it is phonetically similar to "Daniel".
GEANE	-	"Medieval English variant of Jehanne. It was common in England and Scotland during the Middle Ages but eventually became rare in England. It was reintroduced to the English-speaking world from Scotland in the 19th century."
GLEISON	Glei + son	GLEI: from English = Glade. SON: ' <i>filho de</i> '
JESSICA	-	"This name was first used in this form by Shakespeare in his play 'The Merchant of Venice' (1596), where it belongs to the daughter of Shylock. Shakespeare probably based it on the biblical name ISCAH, which would have been spelled Jescha in his time. It was not commonly used as a given name until the middle of the 20th century. Notable bearers include actresses Jessica Tandy (1909-1994) and Jessica Lange (1949-)"
SAMANTHA KETHELY	-	SAMANTHA: "Perhaps intended to be a feminine form of SAMUEL, using the name suffix antha (possibly inspired by Greek άνθος (anthos) "flower"). It originated in America in the 18th century but was fairly uncommon until 1964, when it was popularized by the main character on the television show 'Bewitched'. KATHLEEN(Celtic): Little darling. "Anglicized form of CAITLÍN (Irish form of Cateline, the Old French form of KATHERINE - Catarina)"

Source: Adapted by the author based on OBATA, 1986; ARTHUR, W., 1857; HANKS, P. et al. 2006.

Note: Data subject to correction.

\*Splinter means a broken piece that can be used in forming a new word or name (SIMÕES NETO; SOLEDADE, 2018, p. 1322).

As a data collection instrument, a semi-structured interview was conducted for 10 students (6 men and 4 women) aged 18 to 35 until the date of the interview, whose names

were selected from the lists and questions aimed at understanding the relationship between the named person and the name. Fourteen names were initially selected from the two approved lists, but there were dropouts and absent on interview days, it was only possible to collect data from 10 students after they signed the Informed Consent.

The interview was held on June 24 and 25, 2019 and the following questions were asked<sup>14</sup>:

1. *Qual seu nome, mês e ano que voce nasceu?*
2. *Quem escolheu o seu nome?*
3. *Como foi o processo de escolha/motivação?*
4. *Voce tem irmãos? Qual o nome deles?*
5. *Quando/se tiver filhos, usaria o mesmo processo de escolha do nome?*
6. *Voce sabe o significado do seu nome?*
7. *Seu nome já lhe prejudicou ou lhe beneficiou em alguma ocasião?*
8. *Você acredita que o uso de nomes estrangeiros pode resultar em uma perda cultural para o nosso país e/ou para a língua estrangeira?*
9. *Qual sua relação com a Língua Inglesa? Gosta?*

### 3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This analysis is directed to the answers obtained in the data collection given by the target subjects of this research, focusing on the motivations as well as other factors associated with this naming process.

Answers to the second question “*Quem escolheu seu nome?*” given by men and women were classified into the following categories (Table 2):

**MOTHER** – when their mother chose on her own. The mother chose the name of 40% of interviewees (two men and two women).

**FATHER** - when their father chose on his own. The father chose the name of 40% of them (three men and one woman).

**PARENTS** - when the couple chose together. Only one case (10%) was identified where the name Andreilson was chosen in conjunction with GODMOTHER, for this reason, this data needed to be divided between these two categories.

**GRANDMOTHER** - when grandmother chose it. In only one case (Samantha Kethely - 10%) she said that her grandmother made the choice after watching a movie where a princess called herself that. This case is also classified in the AESTHETIC category below.

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<sup>14</sup> The answers were analyzed and for reasons of time only questions 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9 will be addressed in this article and the remaining will serve to continue this research.

Answers to the third question “*Como foi o processo de escolha/motivação*” given by men and women were classified into the following (Table 2):

**AESTHETIC** – This category manifested itself in two cases (20%) in which both interviewees (Ashylem and Samantha Kethely) reported that their mother and grandmother, respectively, chose because they saw on TV and found it beautiful. Examples:

Ashylem (Named by her mother): “*Ela, uma vez, tava assistindo o programa do Silvio Santos, aí tinha uma menina que ela tinha uns 12 anos e o nome dela era ‘Ashiley’ e ela achou bem interessante e se ela tivesse uma filha ela ia colocar o nome ou igual ou parecido, só que aí ela modificou e colocou Ashylem*”.

Samantha Kethely (Named by her grandmother): “*Ela tinha assistido um filme onde era o nome de uma princesa que era da Inglaterra, aí ela foi e deu a ideia pra minha mãe*”.

**TRIBUTE** – It was found in one of the cases (10%) that the interviewed inherited the name of the grandfather idealized by his father. Example:

Carlos: “*Meu pai pediu pra que colocasse Carlos porque já é o nome do meu avô, meio que já entra a homenagem*”.

**SIBLINGHOOD/TRADITION** - The name is chosen according to a child naming rule, Rabinovich et al (1993, p. 88) say that the names that follow this principle act as instruments to strengthen family unity and to continue this tradition.

Most of the results obtained through the direct motivation of the naming questioned fit this category (table 3) representing 60% of the interviewees (40% siblings, 10% brother and mother and 10% father).

An important fact observed was the loss of the patronymic function used in ancient languages to assign sequence to family descent through the surname of the nominees (SIMÕES NETO; SOLEDADE, 2018, p. 1311), bringing the sense of ‘*filho de*’ in Portuguese (X-son, X-ilson) to this formative present in the names of 4 of the interviewees, in the form of splinters in Andre + ilson, Clei + son, Den + ilson and Glei + son, where none of them reported this kind of motivation.

**UNKNOWN REASON** – when the reason for the appointment is unknown. Only one case was recorded (10%).

Table 2: Cross between answers to questions “*Quem escolheu o seu nome?*” and “*Como foi o processo de escolha/motivação*” given by men and women

Motivation	Mother		Father		Parents		Godmother		Grandmother		Total	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
Aesthetic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
Tribute*	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Siblingshood/Tradition*	1	1	1	2	-	0,5	-	0,5	-	-	2	4
Unknown Reason	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>

Note: F - Female, M – Male.

Source: Prepared by the author.

Because of the large number of occurrences of the categories TRIBUTE and SIBLINGHOOD/TRADITION identified during the interview (70%), a more detailed analysis was necessary. (Table 3). Based on the answers to the third question, more specifically regarding the possible motivations for the appointment, the following subcategories were defined: SIBLINGS (45% - fourth question), MOTHER (5%), FATHER (10%) and GRANDFATHER (10%). This rule can be by initial, by repeating the same name (example: Carlos and Carlos - TRIBUTE to grandfather) or by combining the sounds of names (example: Denilson and Danilson - TRADITION). Example:

Cleiton: *“Foi minha mãe, como o nome dela começa com C então ela resolveu colocar o meu nome de Cleiton porque começa com C, [...] nós somos 6 no total e eu sou o caçula, então ela resolveu colocar com C os dois ultimos em alusão a primeira letra do nome dela”*.

\*Table 3 - Associated names sorted in categories SIBLINGHOOD/TRADITION and TRIBUTE

Names	Siblinghood/Tradition			Tribute
	Siblings	Mother	Father	Grandfather
Andreilson	Anderley; Andrielle; Andreia; Anderléia.	-	-	-
Carlos	-	-	-	Carlos
Cleison	Clei; Cleiton.	-	-	-
Cleiton	Cleberson	Cleonilde	-	-
Denilson	Danilson; Danilo; Diego.	-	-	-
Geane	-	-	Genilson	-
Jessica	Geisa (twin); Joabe.	-	-	-

Source: Prepared by the author.

According to the interviewees' answers about the meaning of their names, where 70% claimed that they KNOW PARTLY or DO NOT KNOW, no direct influence of these meanings on the personality and/or life of the individuals was identified, as they did not demonstrate give great importance to this subjective aspect. Soon after, they were asked about possible situations of embarrassment, difficulties or benefits that the name provided them, the results are shown in Table 4. Some of them claimed that there have been situations where people had difficulty pronouncing their names, causing them unpleasant situations when reading them, as this corresponds to 30% of the cases being classified in the HARMFUL category as shown in table 4, for example:

Cleiton: *“Só mesmo mudança, né, justamente da pronúncia, o pessoal: ‘É Claiton!’, mas não é Claiton, é Cleiton!”*.

Among the interviewees, 40% remained impartial in this regard and were placed in the NEUTRAL category. Others said their names benefited them in some way (30%, 20% for being differentiated), such as:

Cleison: *“Me ajudou bastante, na escola, como eu era o único com esse nome eu sempre sabia quando, no caso meus amigos sabiam me informar se eu tava em alguma lista de aprovados”.*

Table 4: Cross between answers to questions *“Voce sabe o significado do seu nome?”* and *“Seu nome já lhe prejudicou ou lhe beneficiou em alguma ocasião?”*

Names	Know			Know partly			Do not know		
	H	B	N	H	B	N	H	B	N
Andreilson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X
Ashylem	-	-	-	difficulties in pronunciation	-	-	-	-	-
Carlos	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cleison	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	for being differentiated	-
Cleiton	difficulties in pronunciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Denilson	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
Geane	-	-	-	-	for being differentiated	-	-	-	-
Gleison	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
Jessica	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
Samantha Kethely	-	-	-	difficulties in pronunciation	-	-	-	-	-

Note: H – Harmful, B – Beneficial, N – Neutral.

Source: Prepared by the author.

All the interviewees, representing 100% of the answers (Table 5), said they like English although many claims they do not speak English but want to learn and know more about it. Examples:

Gleison: *“Eu acho interessante, assim, tenho vontade de conhecer, ter mais um conhecimento além, porque às vezes a gente ver alguma palavra escrita em alguma blusa, algum banner, algum tipo de material e a gente não sabe o significado às vezes né, então eu tenho essa vontade de sempre ta evoluindo na Língua Inglesa, tenho essa curiosidade”.*

Denilson: *“O que me chamou mais atenção de aprender o Inglês é por conta também, de ser fã da Beyoncé”.*

However, 20% of interviewees said they agree that foreignism can cause harm to the Portuguese language, such as:

Samantha Kethely: *“Acho que sim porque, tipo lá na sala, tem muita gente com nome com origem Tupí, caracterizado da nossa região, aí quando a gente tem um nome de outro país assim, acho que a cultura vai diminuindo um pouco”.*

Denilson: *“Eu nunca tinha ido a fundo na pesquisa do meu nome e acredito que dá sim uma certa complicação de misturar as coisas”.*

On the other hand, 80% of students say that this influence does not cause damage or loss of cultural identity of the country, in the choice of names.

Table 5 - Cross between answers to questions “*Você acredita que o uso de nomes estrangeiros pode resultar...?*” (Question 8) and “*Qual sua relação com a Língua Inglesa? Gosta?*” (Question 9)

Question 9	Like		Dislike	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Question 8				
<b>Nome alvo</b>				
Andreilson	-	X	-	-
Ashylem	-	X	-	-
Carlos	-	X	-	-
Cleison	-	X	-	-
Cleiton	-	X	-	-
Denilson	X	-	-	-
Geane	-	X	-	-
Gleison	-	X	-	-
Jessica	-	X	-	-
Samantha Kethely	X	-	-	-

Source: Prepared by the author.

#### 4 FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Based on the observed aspects of this study, it was concluded that the choice and appointment of the studied subjects occurred randomly, therefore, the hypothesis of foreign influences on the students' names was not directly confirmed.

Many parents when officially registering their children with names outside the Portuguese, make spelling or phonological changes, which may lead, as reported by interviewees, written and pronounced distinct from those assigned to the names in question, as occurred in some cases wherein some situations in the students' lives mainly in the school context, in attendance lists for example.

Taking into account the results obtained in the Siblinghood/Tradition category corresponding to the majority of the target names of this research, a very common strong cultural aspect is manifested in the intention to continue the family tradition strongly inserted in the members of that clan by naming them, even though the nominators are not aware of the consequences of these choices also present in the Tribute category.

Another important factor observed through the students' responses was the identification of people with their name through positive expressions when asked about the naming evaluation, even though most of them did not report any influence on the meanings attributed to their name because many claimed not to have much knowledge about their origins and in some cases never have an interest in knowing where that nomenclature came from, mainly justifying the fact that naming things and people are everyday and common in our society.

As might be expected, it was possible to see admiration for the English language among the vast majority of the people approached, who consider it an interesting language and show interest in learning it to get better jobs, socialize, travel and other interests thus highlighting the prestige of the English language as discussed in this study.

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