

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Language, Literature and Culture Studies
Manuscript Number:	Ms_ AJL2C_127449
Title of the Manuscript:	Initial Consonant Mutation in Fulfulde: An Optimality Theoretic Account
Type of the Article	

PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript contributes to the scientific community by providing an Optimality Theory-based analysis of initial consonant mutation, a phenomenon of significant interest in phonological studies. By proposing a ranking of constraints such as ALIGN, *BLB-CONT, and IDENT-IO, the study offers insights into the interaction of phonological and morphological processes. The work has potential implications for understanding the phonology-morphology interface, particularly in systems where mutation patterns influence grammatical structure. Additionally, it opens avenues for further research into cross-linguistic comparisons and the typological relevance of mutation systems, enriching the broader discourse on constraint-based phonological models.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	Yes	
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	The abstract needs revision, specifically: State the research problem explicitly. Clarify the objectives of the study in simple, precise terms. Briefly describe the methodology, including the source of data and why OT is used. Highlight key findings, avoiding excessive technical details. Include implications, emphasizing why the study is important.	
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	The manuscript is scientifically plausible but incomplete in its current form. Key issues include: i. Insufficient contextualization in prior research (literature review). ii. Unclear data sources and lack of methodological transparency. iii. Limited discussion of exceptions, variation, and broader implications of the findings.	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	The references are not sufficient, though the work references are relevant to OT concepts and constraints. However, the references are not presented in a formal list at the end, making it difficult to verify sources. Also, the paper does not cite recent key works on OT or mutation typology, which could strengthen its theoretical grounding.	
Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	Yes	
Optional/General comment	The work has future if all the recommendations are considered.	

Review Form 3

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

Reviewer Details:

Name:	Mosunmola Oluyinka Adebayo
Department, University & Country	University of Africa, Nigeria