An outcome of the spread of English around the world is its adoption by others for communicating local attitudes and values, ways of thinking and feeling. Some of the linguistic forms used in expressing feelings in Ghanaian English are not easily understood by speakers of other Englishes. This is because they are borrowings or loan translations from the indigenous languages. I examine three of such expressions: *adzeii* ‘a cry of pain’, *eye-red* ‘covetousness, determination’ and *skin-pain* ‘envy, jealousy’ as in the utterance *Skin pain dey for woman palaver*. I relate the discussion to the figurative use and semantics of body-image expressions for feelings across languages and cultures.

**Biography**

**Felix K. Ameka** was educated at the University of Ghana, Legon (BA Hons I, 1980) and the Australian National University (MA 1986, PhD 1991). He has been teaching and researching in African Languages, Cultures and Linguistics for the past quarter of century at Leiden University, The Netherlands. He is also a Visiting Scientist in the Language and Cognition Department of the Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen. He has been a Visiting Fellow at Universities in Australia (including ANU), Ghana, the USA, Norway, Germany, France and Italy.

He has also been Rapporteur for the UNESCO Experts meeting on endangered languages, Paris (2003) and Moderator and Rapporteur for UNESCO Experts meeting on Good Practices for Safeguarding endangered Languages in Africa, Addis Ababa (2007). He is currently on the Executive Council of four (4) Professional Scientific Organisations including the Association of Linguistic Typology (ALT) and the World Congress of African Linguistics (WOCAL). He is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics*.

His interests are in semantics and pragmatics as well as descriptive, documentary, contact, and anthropological linguistics with focus on West African languages.

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