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## A Linguistic and Culture Panorama of Interconnected Disciplines

By Joel Laffita Rivera

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# A Linguistic and Culture Panorama of Interconnected Disciplines

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Scientifically speaking we, all know that the origins of language and culture remain unknown. Researchers relate to fossil, archeology evidence, and historical accounts in attempting to access what many scholars do think is a topic that lacks of direct evidence. However, when it comes to the languages and cultures we know today, it could be viable to investigate correlational language and cultural patterns in Applied Linguistics Studies. According to some accounts, Linguistics is the scientific study of the structure and development of language in general or particular languages (Brain and Richard, 2003); (Weinreich & Herzog, 1968). In other words, the study of language forms. Henceforth, for us to appropriately analyzing the language and culture patterns associated with the Spanish syntaxes [tú and usted] in communication contexts from linguistics perspectives, it will require to look at sociolinguistic and sociocultural factors implications. (Gumperz, 2008) argues that Sociolinguistic is the descriptive study of the effect of any aspects of society, including cultural norms, expectations, and context, on how language is used and society's effect on language. For (Christine, 2015) a primary aim of sociolinguistics is to consider language

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variation and change about social factors and effects. Referring to Sociocultural (Kauffman, 1980) cites that the term "sociocultural system" embraces three concepts: society, culture, and system. A society is several interdependent organisms of the same species. Culture is the learned behaviors shared by the members, together with the material products of such behaviors. The words "society" and "culture" are fused to form the word "sociocultural". A system is a collection of parts which interact with each other to function as a whole.

By considering the Spanish's society traditional treatment of the subject personal pronouns [tú and usted] in communication contexts; one could think in mind that is just a peculiar and well-known phenomenon unique to Spanish language and culture, and yes when seining it that way it could be understood to think so. However, dealing nowadays with this subject matter from linguistics perspectives has become a challenge due to cultural pressures that are pushing away the traditional treatment of those syntaxes in Spanish communications. At present, having formal interactions which are determined by the use of the grammar patterns associated with the personal pronoun [usted], as it also does about the subject personal pronoun [tú], have been reduced to only those Spanish communication contexts expected to happen in exclusive and shorted time circumstances, and even in these cases, the use of the pronoun [usted] and its linguistic associated patterns are dismissed when a reliable communication has been established. Even though these applied linguistics issues have been performed for many centuries; the culture pro [tú] shift in the spiral of modern Spanish/Spain and Latin America Spanish speaking-countries societies sociocultural stands is accelerating a possible fusion of the two pronouns in a direction that linguistically and culturally speaking, it might not be the right one.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

There is a very close relationship between language and culture in general, and a specific language and its culture, the two issues are closely correlated and interrelated (Tengku and Sepideh, 2017). Although the language is considered the primary channel through which we communicate, the very existence of linguistic patterns that require culture inputs makes the cohesion between language and culture one subject of communication. And this is the case of the

subject matter presented in this research study, which encompasses the Spanish subject pronouns [tú and usted]. The significant role of Spanish syntax in communication contexts and the linguistic and cultural treatment of these pronouns have been cited in many predominant works (Alarcos & Emilio, 1999); (Batchelor, San, Miguel, 2010); (Bialystok, 1981); (Rivera, 2019); (Fotos, 1993). According to (AATSP Annual Conference, 2020), Language is a symbol system unique to human beings and a culture carrier. Language nourishes culture, and the enrichment and development of culture also benefit from language. Pragmatically speaking, it would be impossible to discuss cultural issues about the Spanish syntaxes presented in this research study without referring to their linguistic communicative relationship. And doing otherwise would not be seen as intelligent according to what is prescribed by the Spanish Applied Linguistic System. The (Diccionario de la Lengua Española 23<sup>a</sup> Edición, 2015) which defines Spanish grammar as the grammar of this language. Arguing about language usage, (Halliday & Michael, 2006) declares that language is a system of communication used by humans consisting of sounds or gestures. But, because animals can also communicate this way, I would say that the concept of language that we have related to humans 'usage could be better defined as the phonetical, lexical, grammatical, and culture system of communication unique to humans. And a clear example of that uniqueness and humans' intellectual capabilities is the invention of the Alphabet, which could be considered a script derives at first from culture inputs. Of course, the language study also involves analysis of Langue Form, Language Meaning, and Language in Context (Martinet, 1960). [language form] refers to word definitions, phonetical variants, and the agreement between them into contextual sentence/phrases. [language meaning] focuses on words and sentences and phrases used. [language in context] interprets word and sentence and phrase meaning (Joel, 2020). (Jakobson, 1937) cites that when studying linguistics, one should consider syntax (how sentences are logically structured). For instance, [tú / usted] applied linguistic salutation cultures. According to (Tylor, 2016) Culture is an umbrella term that encompasses the social behavior and norms found in human societies, as well as knowledge, beliefs, arts, laws, customs, capabilities, and habits of individuals in these groups. (Kandra, 2019) argues that culture is a shared pattern of behaviours and interactions, cognitive constructs, and understanding that are learned by socialization. For (Dominic, 2009) culture aspects can determine applied linguistic practices. Although these researchers' cultural views could be proved right; I would say that the reality of culture does not rest on conceptual proverbs, because as well as langue, culture is a learning process

through which we learn, acquire, and develop culture cognitive and affective domains that then become our identity norms and values. And as much we do them as much, they will transform the way we behave. A clear example of which is the current [tú and usted] linguistic and cultural practices.

### III. [TÚ AND USTED] LINGUISTIC AND CULTURE ANALYSE

Taking into account Sociolinguistic and Sociocultural factors implications related to the use of the Spanish personal pronouns [tú and usted]; it should not be a surprise to see among Spanish/Spain, and Latin American Spanish speaking countries societies sings of linguistic and cultural patterns that used to guide cooperation among the people from this particular group in one way. And now, it is being used differently. For instance, the treatment of the language and culture patterns of the Spanish personal subject pronouns [tú and usted] is not the same today as it was centuries ago. Using formal and informal linguistic and cultural implications related to these pronouns was the equivalent of possessing and showing high command of the Spanish Language and Culture. It was a practice commonly seen among the Spain/Spanish and Latin America Spanish speaking-countries societies from the middle of the 1900 century, and which was significantly reflected in all the communication mediums of those epochs, whether in television, magazines, newspapers, and business propagandas; the culture inputs that the pronouns [tú and usted] portrait according to the Spanish language and culture were differentiated when using them in communication contexts. However, this reality is rapidly changing as we have become more pro culture familiar and friendship communicators, which hypothetically speaking leads us to imagine a scenario where the differentiated language and culture usage of these pronouns does not exist. That the two pronouns have become one. That the exceed use of the informal [tú] over the formal [usted] has made scholars make the decision to keep the pronoun [tú] as predominant syntax in applied linguistic and culture in Spanish communications. And this, has happened based on public culture preferences inclinations. See figures 1 and 2: Comparable Culture Data Insights:

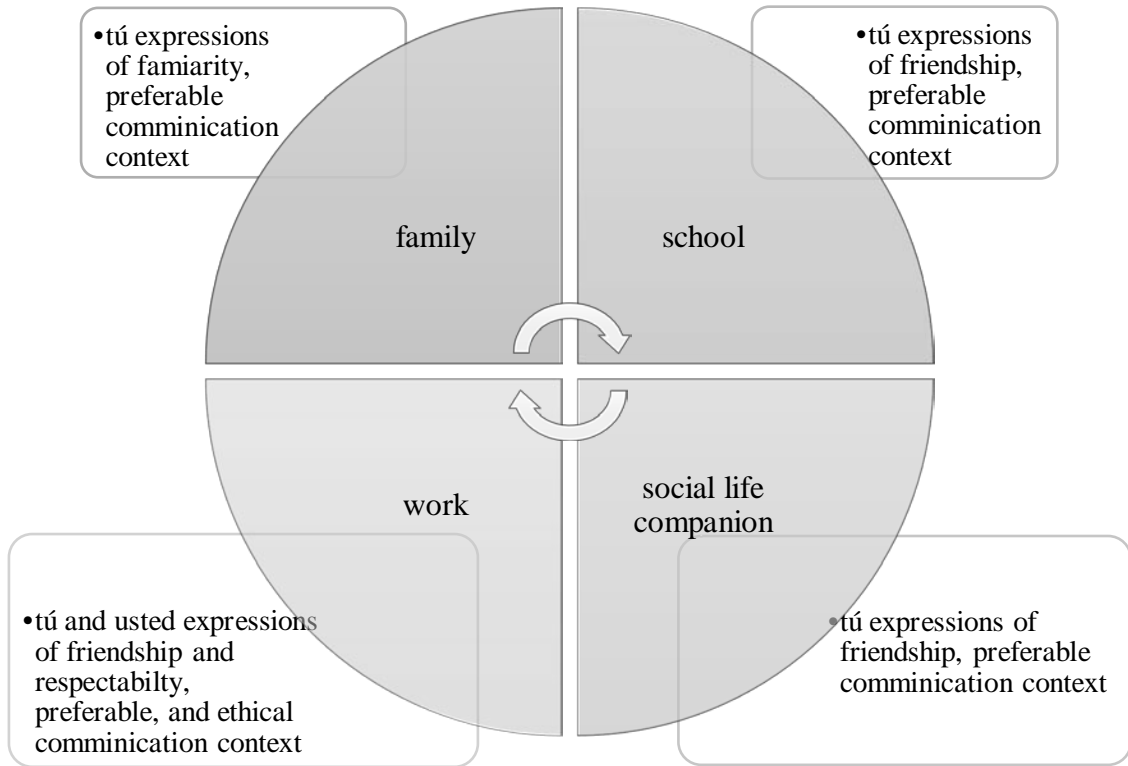


Figure 1: Comparable Culture Data Insights

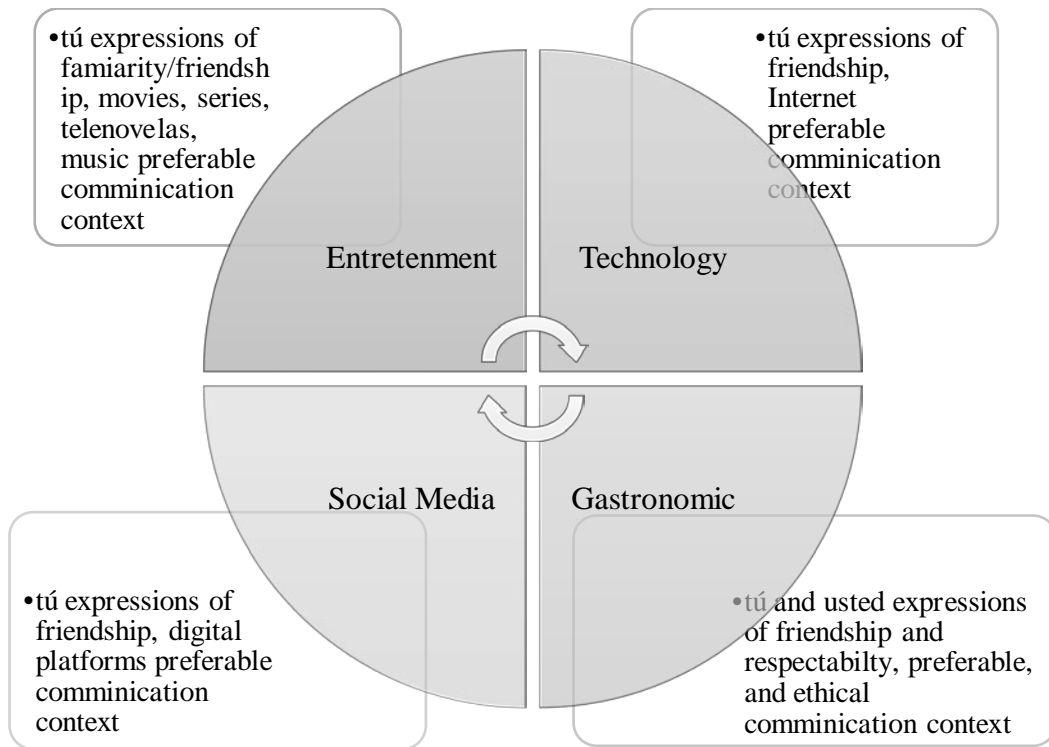


Figure 2: Comparable Culture Data Insights

If we carefully assignment the data shown, we could conclude that that hypothesis might come to pass. Nonetheless, thinking that that decision could benefit the current and future development of the Spanish language it would be a mistake. A deep linguistic and culture study of these subjects could lead us to know why the public favoritism does proportionally favor the use of the pronoun [tú] over the pronoun [usted], and why in the case of a possible fusion of the two pronouns, would happen, not letting the pronoun [tú] instead of the pronoun [usted] could be the right academic decision to make in a hypothetically Applied Linguistics future scenario. We all know that the Spanish subject pronouns (tú and usted) are monosyllable words, that the orthography, phonetical, and grammar patterns associated with them differ. We also know that culturally, the treatment of the two pronouns differs as well. While [tú] is used in family, friendship, and informal contextual written and verbal speeches; [usted] advocates business etiquette and professional profiles formal contextual written and spoken speeches. Nonetheless, what we probably do not know and ignored is the fact that the high level of favouritisms the pronoun [tú] presents does not relate to the acquisition of its cognitive domain, but to that affective domain Spanish native speakers and Spanish second language speakers strongly develop when acknowledging the familiar and friendship behavior communicational approach this subject culturally infers and transmits, an affective domain development which is influenced by the learning surrounding culture.

Although the public's affective domain when using the pronoun [tú] and its associated grammar patterns has tilted the valance in favor of its language and culture communication approaches; when it comes to Applied Linguistics, it does not provide a better hypothetically Spanish Language Development future scenario as the pronoun [usted], and its associated grammar patterns could do it. We all know that the two pronouns are singular. That they take different grammatical positions according to the order of the subject personal pronouns established by the Spanish Grammar. That because of it, grammar patterns such as [verb conjugations, adjectives, pronouns] ext. associated to them, and the no required use of these pronouns in sentences and phrases complex the acquisition and development of grammatical functions when studying this Spanish language subject, mainly when the acquisition of Spanish as Second Foreign Language refers. So, by considering these facts, and the future dominant position of a language which is already the second most spoken language in the world after Chinese, a hypothetically Spanish Language Academia outcome favoring the use of the pronoun [tú] as predominant syntax in applied linguistic and culture in Spanish communications over the pronoun [usted] would not decrease, or either remove the level of grammar complexities, for the contrary, they will remain. See table 1: Spanish Subject Personal Pronouns Order Insights:

*Table 1:* Spanish Subject Personal Pronouns Order Insights

<i>Spanish Subject Pronouns</i>	<i>English Equivalent</i>	<i>Singular and Plural Mode</i>
Yo	I	<i>Singular</i>
Tú	you	
Él / ella / usted	He / she / you	
Nosotros / nosotras	We	<i>Plural</i>
Vosotros / vosotras	You	
Ellos / ellas / ustedes	They / they / you	

Dealing with cultural inputs and two singular pronouns, verbs duality and their different verbal conjugations, adjectives, direct, indirect, reflexive pronouns ext. it has never been an ease grammatical acquisition task to accomplish, no for Spanish native speakers and less for Spanish as second language learners. That is why, in case of a future hypothetically pronouns fusion scenario would happen, reaping the pronoun [usted] over the pronoun [tú] can be the wise

decision. The pronoun [usted] would help us to get rid of the grammatical function's duality exposed, it would ease the acquisition of it together with the acquisition of the pronouns [él/ella] at the same time, and it would keep the cultural status [formal and informal] which could be easily explained by the Pragmatic Discipline. Scientifically, it is proved that Humans are visual-oriented, and when it comes to learning, 60% of people do this way. So, it would be only motive to behave



according to the visible and physical communicational setting environments when using [usted] culture formality and informality contextual, physical, and timely approaches. It could be easier for someone to appropriately behaves in high and low Spanish communication contexts if the only thing to do would be identifying the space setting and polychronic and monochronic time cultural aspects.

a) *Applied Culture Methodological Insights*

Academically, answering fundamental questions on when and how the linguistic and cultural aspects of the pronouns [tú and usted] should be used,

it continues instigating polemical debates. The fact of the matter is that the existence of the Spanish language system constructiveness has provided that peculiar language and culture connectedness issues. Thus, considering that hypothetically future scenario where the Spanish subject pronouns [tú and usted] become one, it would be prudent to look at this subject-matter-domain from prominent culture methodologies views such as that developed by Edward T. Hall, which focuses on three main categories: Context; Space. See Figure 3: Edward T. Hall Applied Culture Philosophy Model:

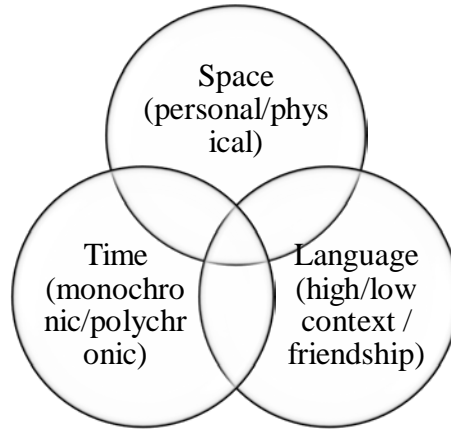


Figure 3: Edward T. Hall Applied Culture Philosophy Model

b) *Context Culture Communicational Approaches*

Hall cites that understanding the context of how language is used is essential to accurately interpret the meaning. Linguistically speaking, the Spain/Spanish and Latin America Spanish speaking-countries societies could be considered high-context and low-context cultures. When it comes to communicating the pronoun [tú], they do perform this act of conversing based on interpersonal relationships that seek to define that way the well-being of the group over individualisms communication approaches. “No me trate de usted” “Do not address me as usted” is one of those Spanish phrase that well define a high context culture when referring to the remark exposed. By using this phrase, Spanish native speakers pursue to establish a communicational approach where the pronoun [usted] linguistic inputs are putting aside, allowing that way that the communicative message between the sender and the receiver flows according to fellowship purposes. On the other hand, when communicating the pronoun [usted] which its language inputs have traditionally defined the Proper Etiquette when formality refers; The communicative message between the sender and the receiver flows not according to friendship purposes, but instead it tends to be more detailed when using language competences in this aspect. Illogically, what is supposed to be a high-context culture due to its cultural correctness linguistic implications becomes the low-

context one. However, having only the pronoun [usted] as predominant Spanish syntax in Spanish communication contexts, this Spanish language communication indistinctness could be removed. For people from other cultures understand, the application of the pronouns [tú and usted] linguistic implications in high-context and low-context cultures will always be a hard task to accomplish. Overall, if we see it from the standpoint of Sociocultural factors such as cross-cultural differences and current Spain/Spanish and Latin American Spanish-speaking countries culture changes that are favoring a culture pro [tú], but still have to deal with [usted] as well.

c) *Space Culture Communicational Approaches*

Hall describes Space as the study of physical space and people. He called it the study of proxemics. Thus, besides the presence of personas [tú and usted] in the act of communication, to analyze the physical space where the communication takes place, it will be necessary to look at all kinds of visible signs that could linguistically and culturally infer codified messages according to Spanish culture own values and norms. For some people, certain words, phrases, gestures, adopted positions, and territorial limit behaviors could be appropriate, but not as such for others whose norms and values are unlike, including people from the same group. In a [tú] Spanish conversational the message

usually carries brotherliness cultures. In the [usted] one uprightness cultures. Getting close while conversing, checking hands, and exchange kisses in a [tú] Spanish conversational differ from the [usted] one. How helpful it could be for people from other cultures not to deal with a language and culture phenomenon that could be reorganized according to the hypothetically future scenario stated in this research study: [usted] as the predominant one.

d) *Time Culture Communicational Approaches*

According to Edward T. Hall time is another commodity influenced by culture. In practical theory, he culturally determined that time could be studied from polychronic (multiple times) and monochronic (one time) perspectives. It is believed that people from polychronic

cultures tend to do more than one task simultaneously. In contrast, people from monochronic cultures tend to do one task at a time. This does not necessarily mean that people from one or the other culture could perform appointed assignments better than others, still, metrically it helps in determining when, and how, and with which frequency the task could be accomplished. Thus, bearing in mind the linguistic and culture duality found in the Spanish language when using the subject pronouns [tú and usted], we could evaluate polychronic and monochronic time cultural aspects related to the use of these syntaxes in Spanish Communication Settings. See table 2: Measurable and Unmeasurable Culture and Language Patterns:

Table 2: Measurable and Unmeasurable Culture and Language Patterns

<i>CULTURE TEMPORARY CONDITIONS</i>	<i>LINGUISTIC NONE TEMPORARY CONDITIONS</i>	<i>ENGLISH EQUIVALENT</i>	
<i>HOLA, BUENOS DÍAS.</i>	<i>¿Te sientes mal?</i>	<i>Hi, good morning.</i>	<i>Are you feeling unwell?</i>
<i>BUENAS NOCHES, SEÑOR LUIS, HASTA MAÑANA.</i>	<i>¿Se siente mal?</i>	<i>Good evening, Mr. Luis. See you tomorrow.</i>	

When it comes to cultural temporary conditions like those shown in the table, we can establish cultural communicational approaches that way. No one would greet some else in the morning as it does in the afternoon or evening. Morning, afternoon and night are cultures transitory conditioned time settings. Nevertheless, when it comes to linguistic none temporary conditions, it could be difficult for us to appropriately use them without knowing linguistics and culture in a given language. Thus, determining polychronic and monochronic time culture aspects could be challenging when using the pronouns [tú and usted] duality linguistic and cultural implications.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The methodology utilized in the research study involved the revision of specialized materials such as publications and Internet accredited websites sources focused on the subject matter presented. It has focused on collecting, analyzing, and mixing both quantitative and qualitative data to make up the literature framework of the research study based on 1) Research methodology. 2) Subject matter domain. 3) Results and discussion. Two fundamental questions were used to guide the present investigation and respond the objective of the study, which looks at the Spanish syntaxes [tú and usted] to highlight correlated linguistic and cultural traits, presents an analysis of the Applied Linguistic and Culture patterns related to them, and provide methodological insights based on the method developed by Edward T. Hall. This prospect describes and analyses cultures.

V. FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS

Could the traditional use of the Spanish subject personal pronouns [tú and usted] be subject to cultural changes at present? If so, how could this effect and possibly transform their well-known differentiated linguistic patterns in Spanish communication contexts?

VI. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

By employing the principles of research techniques prior detailed, the study began gathering and analyzing data from a series of research studies and Internet accredited web sites focused on the subject investigated. The collection of both data has been appropriately displaced according to the literature framework of the research study. The first under the Introduction heading part, and the second under the heading Biography. The methodology strategies used in this research study helped to present the facts of the elements accessible in the manuscript, which have been given in a comprehended manner for readers and specialized critics.

The research study has outlined notable applied linguistics and cultural specificness that characterize the use of the Spanish subject pronouns [tú and usted] in communication contexts and their pro and con consequences when it comes to their applications. In sustaining this regard, the research study displaced statements based on the public' level of favouritisms when utilizing, the Spanish syntaxes. It presents based applied linguistics culture inputs from which we could evaluate a possible fusion of the two pronouns. A deep linguistic and culture study of the insight provided in this

respect could lead us to know why the public favoritism does proportionally favor the use of the pronoun [tú] over the pronoun [usted], and why in the case of a possible fusion of the two pronouns would happen, not letting the pronoun [tú] instead of the pronoun [usted] could be the right academic decision to make in a hypothetically Applied Linguistics future scenario.

The methods presented based on the one developed by Edward T. Hall, which analyze culture denote how we could look at the structures of the culture's aspects of the Subject personal pronouns [tú and usted] from [High and Low Context: language usage/Space: Visible Signs/Time: Measurable and Unmeasurable culture and linguistic] communications. In this respect, the insights provided could lead us to examine the present and future usage of these Spanish syntaxes in communication contexts, providing that way a framework for making a comparative analysis between own Spanish cultures and between other cultures as well.

For many centuries, the Spanish subject pronouns [tú and usted] language and culture communications usage have shaped the culture and linguistic panorama of all Spanish-speaking countries societies, including those like Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay where the subject personal pronoun [tú] has a substituted counterpart grammatical variation, which is [vos]. Although these linguistic differences exist, the fact of the matter is that how these pronouns are used in Spanish communication contexts has a lot in common with language and culture connectedness patterns. This means that any culture change regarding using these pronouns in communication might impact the traditional and academic way when it comes to applied linguistic. It is proved that cultural influences can change the way we behave, including the way we use language. The reason for which it cannot be ignored the fact that the high level of favouritisms the pronoun [tú] presents does not relate to the acquisition of its cognitive domain. Still, to that affective domain Spanish native speakers and Spanish second language speakers strongly develop when acknowledging the familiar and friendship behavior communicational approach this subject culturally infers and transmits, an affective domain development influenced by the learning surrounding culture. As culture, as well as language, are part of a learning process that involves not only family but also society inputs, it could be understood the pro [tú] Popular Culture.

Statistically speaking, it will not be a difficult task to measure the pro [tú] Popular Culture if we take into consideration the public preferences insights provided in figures 1 and 2 shown in this research study, mainly those related to communication mediums such as Technology [Internet], Social Media [Digital Platforms], [Entertaining Industry] cinema, TV telenovelas and

series, music. Although the traditional way of using the two pronouns according to the Spanish language grammatical system has been learned and passed from one generation to next; at present, there is a visible pro [tú] Popular Culture shift in the spiral of modern Spanish/Spain and Latin America Spanish speaking-countries societies sociocultural stands, which is accelerating a possible fusion of the two pronouns in a direction that linguistically and culturally speaking, it might not be the right one. This reality is rapidly changing the linguistic and culture panorama of these societies as we are becoming more pro culture familiar and friendship communicators. Thus, the hypothesis on which the research study emphasizes, it should not be assumed. Learning from the past could lead us to understand what we should do regarding the linguistic and cultural applications of the pronouns [tú and usted] in present and future communication contexts.

## VII. CONCLUSION

The fact that language and culture are interconnected disciplines provides sufficient reasons for scholars involved and interested in conducting researchers related to Linguistics and Cultural Connectiveness. Although many researchers have been done in this regard, none has pointed out Linguistics and Cultural Connectiveness issues this research study has attempted by looking at the correlational linguistic and cultural role of the subject pronouns (tú and usted) in Spanish communication contexts. The data presented in the manuscript contextualize the subject-matter-domain exposed, in conjunction with which the study has presented remarkable and credential researcher views and added new finding to the existent field of Applied Linguistics. Thus, it could conclude that these valuable contributions are beneficial to the field of Applied Culture and Philosophy as well.

## VIII. RECOMMENDATION

Other than emphasizing on linguistic and cultural characteristics that describe the use of the Spanish subject personal pronouns [tú and usted] in communication contexts, and which have been explored and exposed in numerous research' works; the present research study has taken a different research approach to bring out what might a future fusion scenario of these syntaxes be, and how it could be linguistically and culturally addressed. While linguistic experts continue debating the applied linguistic and cultural implications of this subject-matter in communication contexts, somehow; the existence of what was once an adopted sociocultural input that then became a sociolinguistic issue is not been studied from what is a repeated cycle of culture influences on applied linguistic. Thus, future research studies are recommended to deep analyzing this way the subject matter presented.



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