This book brings together research on postcolonial Englishes and research on routine word combinations. In its theoretical part, it explores issues relating to English in Kenya, including aspects of koineization, standardization, attitudes, and identity. It discusses the nature of routine word combinations and how they might reflect aspects of culture. And it meticulously explains the methodology underlying the empirical research. In its analytical part, the book investigates over 300 features that characterize Kenyan English - from Standard English combinations that are used with characteristic frequencies, forms, or meanings, to new combinations resulting from coinages, borrowings, or loan translations. The investigation provides valuable insights into the ways in which cross-cultural misunderstandings may arise between native and non-native speakers.
These could be argued to be indeed characteristic of at least written Kenyan English. But, with acceptability ratings for some other structures being as low as only two and eighteen percent, the results equally suggest that some apparently very common features of Kenyan English would only be accepted in spoken, rather than written language.