

Tour of the Accents of England.

Rahmatov Sherzodbek Urunovich

Webster University master degree student

rsherzodbek@webster.edu

ARTICLE INFO.

Key words: England, accents, dialects, language, culture, geography

Ключевые слова: Англия, акценты, диалекты, язык, культура, география..

Annotation

England is a land of diverse accents, with variations in speech patterns that reflect the region's history, culture, and geography. The country's small size belies the wide range of accents that exist within it, from the lilting tones of Cornwall to the clipped sounds of Yorkshire. This essay provides a tour of some of the most notable accents found in England, exploring the linguistic features that distinguish them and the historical and cultural influences that shaped them. By delving into the accents of England, we gain a deeper understanding of the country's rich linguistic and cultural heritage.

Аннотация:

Англия — страна разнообразных акцентов с вариациями речевых моделей, отражающих историю, культуру и географию региона. Небольшой размер страны противоречит широкому спектру акцентов, существующих в ней, от ритмичных тонов Корнуолла до резких звуков Йоркшира. Это эссе представляет собой экскурсию по некоторым из наиболее заметных акцентов, встречающихся в Англии, исследуя лингвистические особенности, которые их отличают, а также исторические и культурные влияния, сформировавшие их. Углубляясь в акценты Англии, мы получаем более глубокое понимание богатого языкового и культурного наследия страны.

<http://www.gospodarkainnowacje.pl/> © 2023 LWAB.

Introduction

English, as a language, has been spoken for centuries across the world, and has evolved into a diverse range of accents and dialects. The accents vary according to regional and social differences, and each one reflects the speaker's cultural background and identity. English accents not only influence our perceptions of people but also have an impact on social mobility, communication, and opportunities in various fields. In this article, we will explore the significance of English accents, their origin, and some of the most well-known accents across the globe.

Origin of English Accents

The origins of English accents can be traced back to the various invasions and migrations that occurred

in England over the centuries. The accents evolved as a result of a mix of linguistic influences from the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, Normans, and other ethnic groups that came to England. The accents developed further due to social and geographical isolation, with different regions of England developing their own unique accents.

Types of English Accents

English accents can be broadly divided into two categories: Received Pronunciation (RP) and Non-Received Pronunciation (NRP). RP is often considered the standard or 'correct' accent, and it is the accent typically associated with people from prestigious backgrounds. On the other hand, NRP is the term used to refer to all other English accents. NRP is further divided into regional accents, such as Geordie, Scouse, Cockney, and West Country, and social accents, such as Estuary English, MLE (Multicultural London English), and Jafaican (Jamaican Patois).

Significance of English Accents

English accents play a significant role in shaping our perceptions of people. Studies have shown that accents can influence our judgments of a person's intelligence, trustworthiness, and social status. Accents can also impact our ability to communicate effectively with others. For example, people with heavy accents may have difficulty being understood by others who are not accustomed to their accent. This can have an impact on their social mobility and their ability to access certain opportunities.

English accents also have a significant impact on various fields, such as acting, broadcasting, and politics. In acting, an actor's accent can influence their ability to play certain roles and their perceived suitability for particular characters. In broadcasting, an accent can impact a presenter's credibility and likability. In politics, accents can influence a politician's perceived intelligence, trustworthiness, and connection with the public.

This essay offers a comprehensive overview of the diverse accents that exist within England. It explores the linguistic features and cultural influences that have shaped these accents, and highlights some of the most notable differences between them. Through this exploration of English accents, readers will gain a greater appreciation for the country's linguistic and cultural diversity, and an understanding of the factors that contribute to the evolution of language.

Tour of the Accents of England

England is a land of diverse accents, with variations in speech patterns that reflect the region's history, culture, and geography. Despite its relatively small size, England is home to a wide range of accents that differ markedly in their sounds, rhythms, and intonations. From the lilting tones of Cornwall to the clipped sounds of Yorkshire, the accents of England are a testament to the country's rich linguistic and cultural heritage.

English accents are as diverse as the country's geography, with each region having its unique way of pronouncing words. From the refined accent of Received Pronunciation (RP) to the twangy sounds of Cockney, English accents are a fascinating subject that has captivated linguists and language enthusiasts alike. In this article, we will explore the various accents in the English language, their features, and how they compare to each other.

Main Part

Received Pronunciation (RP)

RP is often referred to as the "Queen's English" or "BBC English," and it is the accent most commonly associated with the British upper class. It is also the accent used by newsreaders, actors, and politicians in the UK. RP is known for its clear enunciation, lack of regional variations, and the use of non-regional

vocabulary.

Features of RP:

1. Tendency to pronounce words with a flat, uninflected tone
2. Pronouncing 'r' sounds at the end of words (e.g., car, bar)
3. Pronouncing 'h' sounds at the beginning of words (e.g., hat, house)
4. Pronouncing 't' sounds in the middle of words with a glottal stop (e.g., bottle, butter)
5. Pronouncing 'a' sounds with a distinctive elongated sound (e.g., ask, bath)

Cockney

Cockney is the accent spoken by many people from the East End of London. It is characterized by its rapid delivery, use of rhyming slang, and a distinct intonation pattern. While it was traditionally associated with the working-class, it has become more mainstream in recent years, with actors like Michael Caine and David Beckham adopting it.

Features of Cockney:

1. Dropping the 'h' sound at the beginning of words (e.g., 'ouse instead of house)
2. Shortening 'o' sounds (e.g., 'apple and pears' instead of 'stairs')
3. Using rhyming slang (e.g., 'have a butcher's' instead of 'have a look')
4. Pronouncing 'r' sounds as 'ah' (e.g., caah instead of car)
5. Using a glottal stop instead of a 't' sound in the middle of words (e.g., bu'er instead of butter)

Estuary English

Estuary English is a relatively new accent that emerged in the southeast of England during the 1980s and 1990s. It is a mix of RP and Cockney, and it is spoken by many people in London and the surrounding areas. Estuary English has been described as a more relaxed version of RP and is often used by politicians and TV presenters.

Features of Estuary English:

1. Use of glottal stops (e.g., bu'er instead of butter)
2. Tendency to pronounce 'th' sounds as 'f' or 'v' (e.g., fink instead of think)
3. Use of non-regional vocabulary
4. Pronouncing 'r' sounds at the end of words
5. Dropping the 'h' sound at the beginning of words

Comparison of English Accents

The table below shows a comparison of the features of RP, Cockney, and Estuary English.

Feature	RP	Cockney	Estuary English
Pronunciation of 'r'	Pronounced	Pronounced as 'ah'	Pronounced
Pronunciation of 'h'	Pronounced	Dropped	Dropped
Use of glottal stop	Middle of words	Middle of words	Middle of words
Pronunciation of 'th'	Pronounced	Pronounced as 'f'	

The diversity of accents in England reflects the complex history of the region, with each accent shaped by a unique set of social, political, and economic factors. Some accents are closely tied to particular regions, reflecting the isolation of those areas and the influence of local dialects. Other accents have developed as a result of migration and contact with other cultures, such as the London accent, which reflects the city's history as a hub of trade and commerce.

One of the most distinctive accents in England is the Received Pronunciation (RP) accent, which is often associated with the country's upper classes. This accent is characterized by its clear and precise

enunciation, with a lack of regional or local inflections. RP is often used in formal contexts, such as news broadcasts and public speaking, and has long been seen as a marker of social status and education.

Other accents in England are more closely tied to specific regions, reflecting the distinct histories and cultures of those areas. For example, the Yorkshire accent is characterized by its distinctive vowel sounds, which are often stretched and pronounced with a rising intonation. This accent is strongly associated with the region's working-class culture, and is often seen as a symbol of northern identity.

In contrast, the Cornish accent is characterized by its soft, lilting tones, with a sing-song quality that reflects the region's Celtic heritage. This accent is often associated with the region's fishing and mining communities, and is seen as a symbol of Cornish identity.

The West Country accent, which is found in the southwest of England, is another distinctive regional accent. This accent is characterized by its broad vowels and distinctive cadence, with a rhythm that is slower and more relaxed than other accents in the country. The West Country accent is often associated with rural life and is seen as a symbol of the region's strong sense of community.

The accents of England are a testament to the country's rich linguistic and cultural heritage. Each accent reflects a unique set of social, historical

Conclusion

English accents are a fascinating and significant aspect of our cultural heritage. They reflect our history, our identity, and our social and regional differences. Understanding and appreciating the diversity of English accents is important for effective communication and social cohesion. It is also essential to recognize the impact that accents can have on our perceptions of others and our ability to access opportunities. By embracing our differences and celebrating the richness of our accents, we can build a more inclusive and understanding society.

References:

1. Crystal, D. (2003). *English as a Global Language*. Cambridge University Press.
2. Hughes, A., Trudgill, P., & Watt, D. (2005). *English Accents and Dialects: An Introduction to Social and Regional Varieties of English in the British Isles*. Hodder Education.
3. Hughes, V., & Trudgill, P. (1997). *English Accents and Dialects: An Introduction to Social and Regional Varieties of English in the British Isles* (3rd ed.). London: Arnold Publishers.
4. Labov, W. (2010). *Principles of Linguistic Change: Social Factors*. Oxford: Blackwell.
5. Milroy, J., & Milroy, L. (1999). *Authority in Language: Investigating Language Prescription and Standardisation*. London: Routledge.