

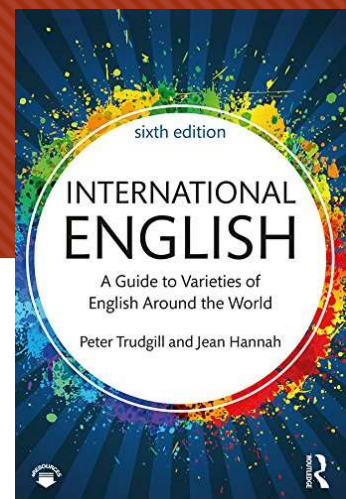
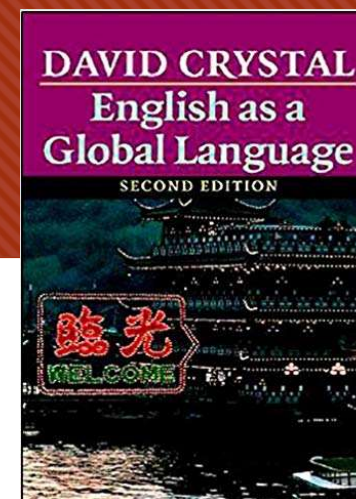
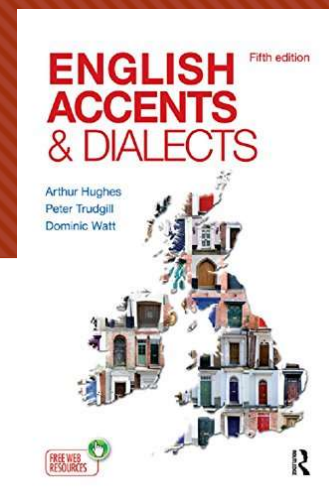


SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Dipartimento di Studi Europei Americani e Interculturali (SEAI)
Dispense corso di Lingua Inglese 2 – canale M-Z
a.a. 2020/2021
Docente: dott. Fabio Ciambella

Materiale didattico destinato ad esclusivo uso interno
Module A

Going Global: Varieties of English around the World



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AY 2020/2021

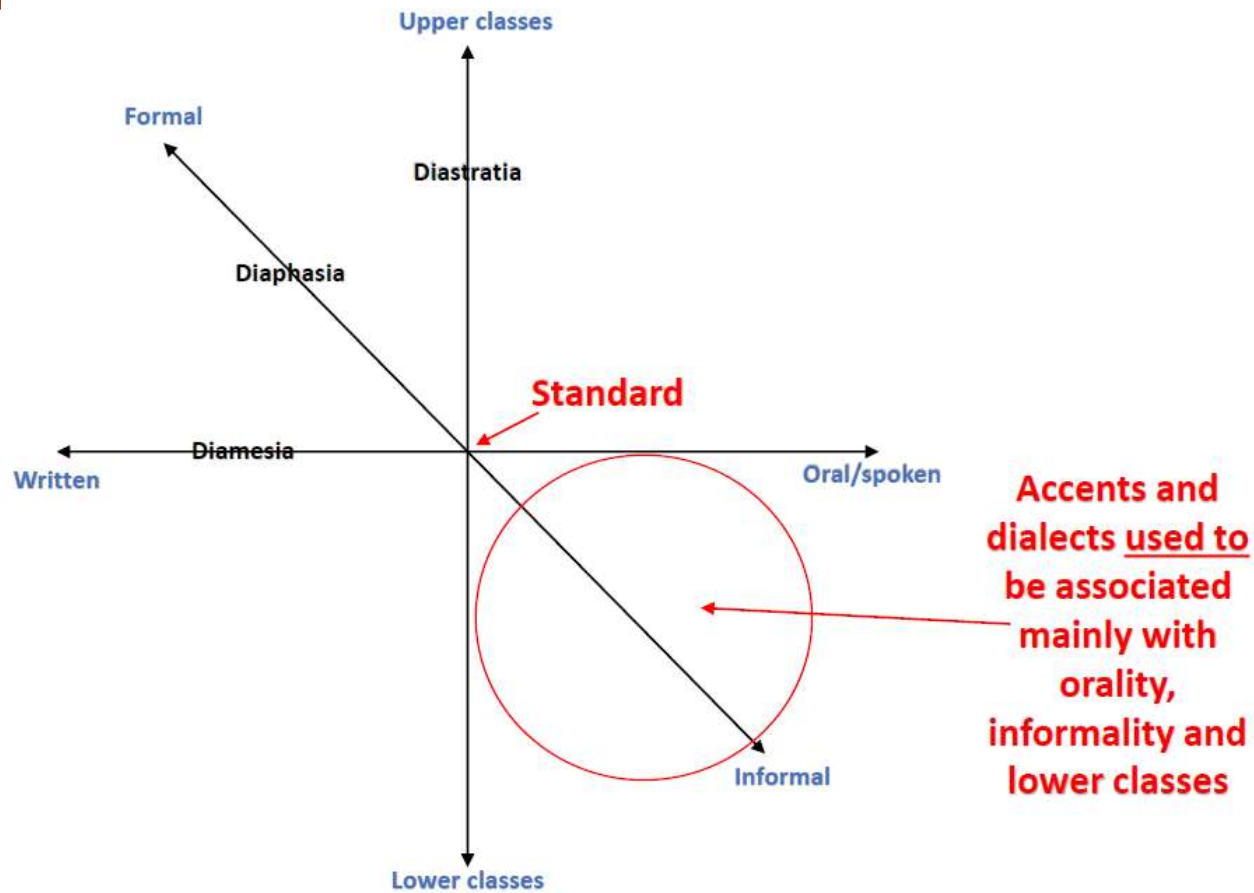
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Dimensions of a language

- **Diachrony** (de Saussure, 1916)=variation in time (e.g. thee, thou, thy, thine; inflection -eth)
- **Diastratia** (Flydal,1952)=variation according to the social class/stratum (e.g. Cockney is associated with the working class)
- **Diatopia** (Flydal, 1952)=variation of place (e.g. again, Cockney is mainly spoken by people in eastern London)
- **Diaphasia** (Coseriu, 1981, integrates de Saussure's and Flydal's models and adds this dimension)=variation according to the context and situation—register and style (e.g. the style/register we use when we talk to a peer is different from the style/register we use when we talk with the immortal Queen of England!)
- **Diamesia** (Mioni, 1983)=variation of means/medium (e.g. written, oral, Netspeak)

Standard vs varieties (Berruto, 1991, revised 2003)



The 5 grammatical characteristics of Standard English according to David Crystal (1988, revised 2002)

1. No distinction between the forms of 'do' when it is auxiliary or main verb
2. No double negative (no negative concord)
3. Irregular reflexive pronouns (e.g. 'myself' from the adj., 'himself' from the pronoun)
4. Past tense of 'to be' distinguishes 'was' from 'were'
5. In many forms, Standard English distinguishes between past tense and past participle

The IPA chart we need for this course...

<https://www.ipachart.com/>

Introduction: Accents & dialects in England

- Dialect = vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation
- Accent = pronunciation
- Criteria to classify dialects:
 1. Written language;
 2. Political issues
- In England half of the population speaks a southern accent, half speaks a northern accent (+ 3-5% RP)
- Linguistic north: from the estuary of river Severn to The Wash (a bay between Lincolnshire and Norfolk)
- Two radical changes of dialects during the last few decades:
 1. Different attitude towards regional accents;
 2. Some accents have changed their phonetic characteristics
- Two tendencies by English native speakers:
 1. Positive attitude towards regional accents;
 2. Negative attitude towards RP ('insincere' and 'distant')



Introduction: Accents & dialects in England (2)

- 8 parameters to distinguish the dialects of England:
 1. North-south divide → but [bʊt] – north vs [bʌt] – south and dance [dæns] – north vs [da:ns] – south. In Southern English [ɑ:] occurs when the orthographic <a> is followed by voiceless fricatives /f, θ, s, z/ and by nasal clusters /nt, ns, nʃ, nd and mp/
 2. Rhoticity
 3. Velar nasal plus
 4. Yod-dropping → new [nju:] vs [nu:]
 5. Happy tensing → coffee [kɒfi] vs [kɒfɪ]
 6. Monophthongization
 7. /l/ vocalization (dark [ɫ]) → milk [mɪlk] vs [mɪɫk]
 8. H dropping → have [hæv] vs [æv]