Dr. Fabio Ciambella

Australia (Aussie) and New Zealand (Kiwi)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZnioDeQNlxQ
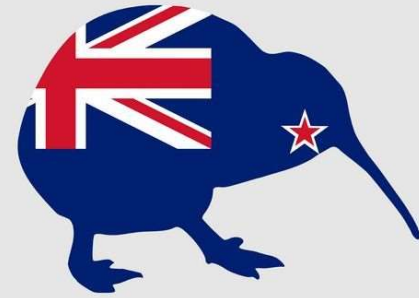
- 1770: James Cook discovered Australia and charted New Zealand;

- Late XVIII: English penal colony (the first in Sydney, 1788);

- 1790s: Europeans settled in New Zealand (although 1840 → first official colony with the Treaty of Waitangi). Contrary to Australia, New Zealand was never a prison, but a settlement for whalers and traders;

- Australian English is a mix of London Cockney and Irish accent (this mix is known as Australian 'twang');

- In recent years, AusEng has been influenced by American English (e.g. truck, elevator, petrol, etc.);

- Some Australian words are from the Aborigines: billabong, boomerang, kangaroo, koala, etc.);

- Some New Zealander words are from Maori: haka, kiwi, etc.;

- There are at least three different varieties of AusEng:

  1. Cultivated AusEng (due to the massive influence of RP);

  2. Broad Australian accent (30% of the population);

  3. General Australian (majority of the population);

- New Zealand English is more conservative than AusEng (there's no broad accent in New Zealand)

AusEng: Pronunciation

Vowels:

- Happy tensing;

- Weak Vowel Merger → In Standard English, when a vowel sound is <u>unstressed</u>, it is often reduced to shwa /ə/ or short /ɪ/- This is a rule of the English phonetics (e.g. in the word 'definite', the stressed vowel sound is the first (in 'de-') and it is pronounced purely, while the other two vowel sounds (in '-fi-' and '-nite') are reduced to /ə/ and /ɪ/ → /ˈdefənɪt/). In AusEng every <u>unstressed syllable</u> is reduced to /ə/, so 'definite' is pronounced /ˈdefənət/;

- /aː/ before voiceless fricatives but /æ/ before nasal clusters: so mix of Southern and Northern English accents;

- No smoothing;

- Very open final /ə/ (e.g. ever → /evə/ in BrEng, /evɹ/ in AmEng, but /eva/ in AusEng).

Consonants:

- Non-rhotic accent with linking and instrusive /r/;

- Intervocalic /t/ is flapped like American English /ɾ/, but less frequent (e.g. Peter is /piːtə/ in British English, but much more like /piːɾa/ in AusEng);

- Dark [ɫ] sound everywhere

56

AusEng: Grammar, lexis and usage

- Shall and should are less usual than RP;
- 'Got' is preferred to 'have' (e.g. I got a sister);
- Collective nouns have singular verb (e.g. Police is coming);
- 'She' is used for inanimate objects (She is my new laptop);
- No distinction between 'been' and 'gone' (e.g. Sarah's been/gone to Montreal. She's coming back on Sunday);
- 'Whenever' may be used for single occasions, like IrEng (e.g. Whenever I come to the cinema next Friday, I'll take you the notes you forgot at my house);
- Irregular past participles as 'known' or 'blown' are pronounced with final /ən/ (/nəʊən/ and /bləʊən/);
- The noun 'river' goes after the name of the river like in NAmEng (in British English it's River Thames, but in AusEng it's Thames River);
- Goodday (hello), lolly (sweet), arvo (afternoon)
- 'Thanks' instead of 'please' (e.g. Can I have a glass of water, thanks?);
- Colloquial abbreviations ('breakkie' for 'breakfast', 'uni' for 'university', 'muso' for 'museum', etc.);
- Personal names abbreviations in /zə/ or /z/ ('Bazza' for 'Barry', 'Mazza' for 'Mary')

NZEng: Pronunciation

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxFrEOrU5Ok

Vowels:

- /ɪ/ is always like /ə/, <u>not only when the syllable is unstressed</u> (this is the main distinction between an Australian and a New Zealander. E.g. 'bit' is /bɪt/ in AusEng. No weak vowel merger because the vowel sound is stressed. In NZEng it's /bət/ even if the vowel sound is in a stressed syllable)
- /ə/ becomes /ʌ/ in unstressed word-final position (e.g. butter → /bʌtʌ/ and also the indefinite article 'a' → /ʌ/)
- /ɛ/ almost identical to /œ/
- /ɑ:/ rather than AusEng in *dance*, *sample*, etc.
- /ɪə/ merges with /ɛə/ (so 'pier' /pɪə/ and 'pear' /pɛə/ are undistinguishable in NZEng. They're both /pɛə/)
- Long and short vowel sounds are merged before /l/ and /r/ (e.g. No distinction between *pull* /pʊl/ and *pool* /puːl/ → [pul] with a vowel sound which is neither long, nor short, like in Italian)

Consonants:

- Non-rhotic accent
- /hw/ maintained, but it's disappearing in younger speakers
- Dark /ɫ/ in any position
- Intervocalic /t/ is a voiced flap (=AusEng, IrEng, NAmEng)
- *With* is often /wɪθ/ (voiceless fricative instead of voiced as in RP)

58

NZEng: Grammar, lexis and usage

- Avoidance of 'shall' and 'should'

- Collective nouns have singular verbs

- 'In the weekend'

- 'To farewell' (say goodbye to someone), 'to flat' (living in an apartment with someone else), kiwi (inhabitant of New Zealand) + a number of Maori loans

- Colloquial abbreviations ('beaut' for 'beauty' or 'beautiful', 'arvo' for 'afternoon', 'postie' for 'postman', etc.)

- 'Thanks' instead of 'please' (e.g. Can you pass me the bottle of oil, thanks?)

Dr. Fabio Ciambella

South Africa

- The Dutch arrived in 1652;

- Afrikaans (from Dutch) was spoken already and was brought north by the Dutch after the Great Trek (migration to escape the British rule) in 1836 → given official status in 1925 (reduced after apartheid);

- 1795-1806: British established in South Africa thanks to an expedition during the Napoleonic Wars;

- 1822: English as an official language together with Afrikaans. English covered the domains of law, education and public life;

- London area speech in Cape Province and Midlands (south and centre), Northern speech in Natal (west), colonized since the 1840s-50s. During the centuries, the two accents became as one, and South African English shares many features of Australian English today;

- South African English (some white people of British origin or background and the majority of black people) vs. Afrikaans (first language of white people with governmental positions and some black people)

- 1993: The Constitution established 11 official languages, so English is the main Lingua Franca in South Africa, due to its prestige

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZdVSEZnQ3g

FOR USE BY WHITE PERSONS

THESE PUBLIC PREMISES AND THE AMENITIES THEREOF HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF WHITE PERSONS.

By Order Provincial Secretary

VIR GEBRUIK DEUR BLANKES

HIERDIE OPENBARE PERSEEL EN DIE GERIEWE DAARVAN IS VIR DIE UITSLUITLIKE GEBRUIK VAN BLANKES AANGEWYS.

Op Las Provinsiale Sekretaris

60

SAEng: Pronunciation

○ /ɑ:/ like NZEng in dance, sample, etc.;

○ Where in BrEng and NAmEng there's /ɪ/ (e.g. big, bit, etc.) in SAEng there's [i] before /k, g ŋ and ʃ/ and after /h/ and [ə] everywhere else (big = [big] but bit = [bət]

○ Diphthongs tend to be monophthongized and most of them are pronounced [ɒ or o] (e.g. 'right' = [rɒt]);

○ /i:/ in many, very, etc. like in AusEng = happy tensing;

○ The plosives /p/, /t/, /k/ and the affricate /tʃ/ are unaspirated;

○ Intervocalic /t/ is a flap like in NAmEng, AusEng and NZEng;

○ Non-rhotic accent with a flapped /ɾ/, but it can be also trilled [r] like ScotEng if speakers are bilingual and speak also Afrikaans;

○ Dental fricatives are often realised as /t/ and /d/;

○ /dj/ (as in due /dju:/) and /tj/ (as in tune /tju:n/) are often pronounced /dʒ/ and /tʃ/ (so /dʒʊ:/ and /tʃʊ:n/) as in many EngEng varieties.

SAEng: Grammar, lexis and usage

- 'Is it?' as the only tag-question;

- No object after certain verbs (e.g. Do you like?);

- 'Adj.+infinitive' instead of 'adj.+of+v. ing' (e.g. I'm not capable to do);

- Non-negative 'no' introduces sentences (e.g. 'How's your son?' 'No, he's ok');

- Loans from Zulu and Afrikaans;

- Some words have a different meaning as compared to other varieties of English (e.g. 'bioscope' is 'cinema', 'robot' is 'traffic light')

ESL varieties of English

○ Central and South America → Puerto Rico and Panama;

○ Europe → Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus;

○ **Africa → Botswana, Kenya, South Africa and Zimbabwe (as we have already seen, in these four countries there are also communities of ENL speakers), Cameroon, Gambia, Ghana, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia;**

○ Asia and Pacific Ocean area → American Samoa, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cook Islands, **Fiji**, Guam, Hong Kong, **India**, Kiribati, Maldives, Mauritius, Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, **Philippines**, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

Indigenization: English is acquiring specific norms of usage which are shared by all speakers.

63

AfrEng: West (WAfEng) and East (EAfEng)

WAfEng	EAfEng
Cameroon Gambia Ghana Liberia Namibia Nigeria Sierra Leone	Botswana Kenya Lesotho Malawi South Africa Swaziland Tanzania Uganda Zambia Zimbabwe

WAfEng: Pronunciation

- Reduced vowel system (10);
- Non-rhotic and syllable-timed;
- RP /ɪə/ and /eə/ → /ia/ and /ea/;
- In words ending in –mb, the /b/ sound is pronounced;
- Velar nasal plus
- Final consonant clusters are reduced as in JamEng;
- Final voiced consonants are devoiced (e.g. proud → /praʊt/);
- Different stresses (e.g. investigáte, madám, succés)

WAfEng: Grammar, lexis and usage

- No articles (e.g Dog is in garden);
- Pluralization of uncountable nouns (e.g. furnitures, damages, etc.);
- Resumptive pronoun (e.g. Bob and Mary, they'll get married);
- Themselves = each other (e.g. They love themselves);
- Comparative without 'more' (e.g. I'm intelligent than you);
- Universal tag question 'is it?' like in SAfEng;
- Use of long Latin-derived words (e.g. 'epistle' instead of 'letter')

EAfEng: Pronunciation, grammar, lexis and usage

Besides all the characteristics of WAfEng, EAfEng has:

○ Even fewer vowel sounds than in WAfEng (only 8);

○ No distinction between /l/ and /r/;

○ /tʃ/ and /ʃ/ are merged with /s/;

○ /dʒ/ and /ʒ/ are merged with /z/;

○ Loanwords from Bantu languages (e.g. duka = shop)

67