

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ
ОДЕСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ
ІМЕНІ І. І. МЕЧНИКОВА
ФАКУЛЬТЕТ РОМАНО-ГЕРМАНСЬКОЇ ФІЛОЛОГІЇ

КАФЕДРА ТЕОРЕТИЧНОЇ ТА ПРИКЛАДНОЇ ФОНЕТИКИ
АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ



PHONETIC AND INTONATION FEATURES OF SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL VARIANTS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

МЕТОДИЧНІ РЕКОМЕНДАЦІЇ

до практичних занять та самостійної роботи
з навчальної дисципліни «Фонетичні та інтонаційні особливості
соціальних та територіальних варіантів англійської мови» для здобувачів
вищої освіти першого (бакалаврського) рівня спеціальності В11 Філологія
спеціалізації В11.041 Германські мови та літератури (переклад включно),
перша – англійська

ОДЕСА
2025

УДК 811.111'276'282.3'342(072)

P58

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*Рекомендовано до друку вченою радою
факультету романо-германської філології ОНУ імені І. І. Мечникова
Протокол № 2 від 30 жовтня 2025 року*

P58 **Phonetic** and intonation features of social and territorial variants of the English language : метод. рек. до практ. занять та самост. роботи з навч. дисципліни «Фонетичні та інтонаційні особливості соціальних та територіальних варіантів англійської мови» для здобувачів вищ. освіти першого (бакалавр.) рівня спец. В11 Філологія спеціалізації В11.041 Германські мови та літератури (переклад включно), перша – англійська / уклад. Н. В. Ланчуковська. Одеса : видавець Букаєв Вадим Вікторович, 2025. 32 с.

Розробка ставить собі завдання сформувати знання здобувачів освіти щодо фонетичних та інтонаційних особливостей соціальних та територіальних варіантів англійської мови.

У методичних рекомендаціях надається системне дослідження просодичних особливостей різноманітних англійських акцентів, яке допоможе студентам-філологам поглибити теоретичні знання з фонології та акцентології англійської мови.

УДК 811.111'276'282.3'342(072)

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ПЕРЕДМОВА

Цей посібник є спробою системного дослідження просодичних особливостей різноманітних англійських акцентів, що є актуальним напрямом сучасного мовознавства. Англійська мова, завдяки своїй глобальній поширеності та багатовіковій історії, демонструє значну територіальну та соціальну диференціацію, яка проявляється, зокрема, у специфіці її звучання. Просодія – як сукупність надсегментних одиниць мовлення, що визначають його мелодику, ритміку та інтонаційне забарвлення – відіграє ключову роль у маркуванні етнічних, регіональних та соціальних ідентичностей носіїв мови.

Сфокусувавшись на аналізі просодичних характеристик, ми розглядаємо такі значущі англійські акценти, як:

Received Pronunciation (RP) – як історично престижний варіант, що слугує об'єктом порівняння.

Welsh accent – що відзначається своєрідними мелодичними контурами.

Scottish accent – з його виразною ритмічною структурою.

Irish accent – що демонструє специфіку інтонування та артикуляції.

American accent – як комплексне явище з численними варіаціями.

Canadian accent – що має власні просодичні маркери.

Australian accent – зі своєю унікальною інтонаційною системою.

New Zealand accent – що відрізняється від інших острівних варіантів своєю виразністю.

Метою цього посібника є надання студентам-філологам науково обґрунтованого інструментарію для розуміння та аналізу фонетичних аспектів вищезазначених акцентів, з особливою увагою до їхньої просодичної складової. Вивчення цих особливостей дозволить:

Поглибити теоретичні знання з фонології та акцентології англійської мови.

Розвинути навички критичного аудіювання та розрізнення фонетичних варіантів.

Підвищити точність мовленнєвої продукції, зокрема, для майбутніх викладачів, перекладачів, лінгвістів-дослідників.

Сформувати розуміння взаємозв'язку мовлення, культури та ідентичності.

Ми прагнемо представити матеріал у доступній, але водночас науково коректній формі, спираючись на сучасні дослідження та класичні положення акцентології. Сподіваємося, цей посібник стане корисним джерелом інформації та стимулом для подальшого вивчення лінгвістичного розмаїття англійської мови.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTIC OF SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL VARIANTS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

It is common knowledge that language exists in two forms: written and spoken. Any manifestation of language by means of speech is the result of a highly complicated series of events.

The literary spoken form has its national pronunciation standard. A "standard" may be defined as "a socially accepted variety of a language established by a codified norm of correctness". [8: 68].

From the dozens of definitions available in the literature on English, David Crystal extracts the following essential characteristics of Standard English:

1. SE is a variety of English that has no local base.
2. The linguistic features of SE are chiefly matters of grammar, vocabulary and orthography (spelling and punctuation). It should be emphasized that SE is not a matter of pronunciation: it is spoken in a wide variety of accents, including any prestige accent a country may have.
3. SE is the variety of English that carries most social prestige within the country. This prestige is recognized by adult members of the community and is used as a desirable educational target, as the norm of communication by the country's leading institutions: the government, law courts and media.
4. SE has wide intelligibility, but at the same time only a minority of people within a country actually uses it for communication (e.g. radio and TV announcers, public figures, etc.). Most people use a variety of regional English, or an admixture of standard and regional Englishes for interpersonal communication [5, 7].

It may be well to state that every national variety of the language falls into territorial or regional dialects. Dialects are distinguished from each other by differences in pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary. We must make clear that, when we refer to varieties in pronunciation only, we use the word "accent".

Today all the English-speaking nations have their own national variants of pronunciation and each of them has peculiar features that distinguish it from other varieties of English.

It is generally accepted that for the "English English" it is "Received Pronunciation" or RP; for "The American English" - "General American pronunciation"; for the Australian English - "Educated Australian".

Standard national pronunciation is sometimes called an "orthoepic norm". Some phoneticians, however, prefer the term "literary pronunciation".

Though every national variant of English has considerable differences in pronunciation, lexis and grammar, they all have much in common which gives us ground to speak of one and the same language - the English language.

It is common knowledge that between 375 and 400 million people speak English as their first language/mother tongue (L1/MT). It is the national language of Great Britain, the USA, Australia, New Zealand and Canada (part of it).

English was originally spoken in England and south-eastern Scotland. Then it was introduced into the greater part of Scotland and southern Ireland. In the 17th and 18th centuries it was brought to North America (mainly from the West of England).

Later in the 18th and 19th centuries English was exported to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa owing to the colonial expansion. A flow of emigrants who went to invade, explore and inhabit those lands came mostly from the south-eastern parts of England.

English became wide-spread in Wales at about the same time. Welsh English is very similar to southern English, although the influence of Welsh has played a role in its formation. Then in the 20th century American English began to spread in Canada, Latin America, on the Bermudas, and in other parts of the world.

Thus nowadays two main types of English are spoken in the English-speaking world: English English and American English.

British dialectologists P. Trudgill, J. Hannah, A. Hughes [3] divide all variants of English into two major groups:

1) the English-based group comprising English-English, Welsh English, Scottish English, Northern Ireland English, Australian English, New Zealand English, and

2) the American-based group with American English and Canadian English.

English English comprises two major accents: Southern English and Northern English. Thus there are five major accents (literary/cultivated) on the British Isles:

1. Southern English or Received Pronunciation (RP)/BBC English.

2. Northern English.

3. Welsh English.

4. Scottish English.

5. Northern Ireland English.

RP/BBC English implicitly enjoys the status of the national standard of pronunciation in the United Kingdom.

In American English, three main types of literary/cultivated pronunciation are distinguished:

1. General American (GenAm, GA)/Network English which is also known as Western American and comprises that majority of American accents from Ohio through the Middle West and on to the Pacific coast. These accents do not show marked eastern or southern characteristics [1: 15].

2. Eastern American including

(i) Boston and eastern New England, and

(ii) New York City.

3. Southern American includes accents of lowland south: Virginia, North and South Carolinas, Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, etc.

The opinions as to the US national standard of pronunciation vary. Some scholars hold the view that GenAm/Network English implicitly enjoys the status of the national standard of pronunciation in the USA, others claim that there is no nationwide pronunciation standard. But it is an actual fact that GenAm is widely used by the US media and enjoys intelligibility throughout the country.

In New Zealand, RP is used as pronunciation model for educated speakers.

In Australia, there is no or little geographical variation in pronunciation [6: 350], but a great deal of variation can be classified according to social criteria. Three groups of accents are distinguished with no sharp boundary between them:

1) Cultivated Australian used by about 10 percent of the population on which RP continues to exert a considerable pressure;

2) its opposite extreme, Broad Australian which is used by about 30 percent of the speakers and which appears to be most localized, most clearly identified with the notion of "an Australian twang", most vividly displaying Cockney influence;

3) General Australian, which is spoken by the mainstream of educated Australian speakers and which may be implicitly treated as Australian pronunciation standard.

The type of educated English pronunciation used in Canada has many similar features with GenAm alongside with specific Canadian traits.

New varieties of English or New Englishes have emerged as the result of the colonial experience: Indian English, Hong Kong English, Singaporean English, West African English, etc. [Pride, 1982]. These accents exhibit differences.

A pidgin language is the language used for the purpose of communication between speakers of mutually unintelligible languages (usually in the Third World) which has been developed out of the mixture of the languages of the communities concerned (e.g. Papua New Guinea Pidgin English, Chinese Pidgin = Tok Pisin). As such, it would have no native speakers. The origin of the term Pidgin is thought to be "a Chinese corruption of English business" [3: 54]. The citations from OED suggest that the spelling *pigeon* was commoner than *pidgin* in the 19th century, when European traders were active on the South China Coast, and appears to be the origin of the expression "That's not my pigeon" (That's not my business/concern). Tom McArthur [3: 163] states that..."for over a century, pidgin has been used... as a label for any hybrid language used in ports and on ships, and in garrisons, markets, mines, and the

like". It is only in the later twentieth century that it has acquired the neutral, technical sense of "a contact language which draws on elements from two or more languages" [3: 178].

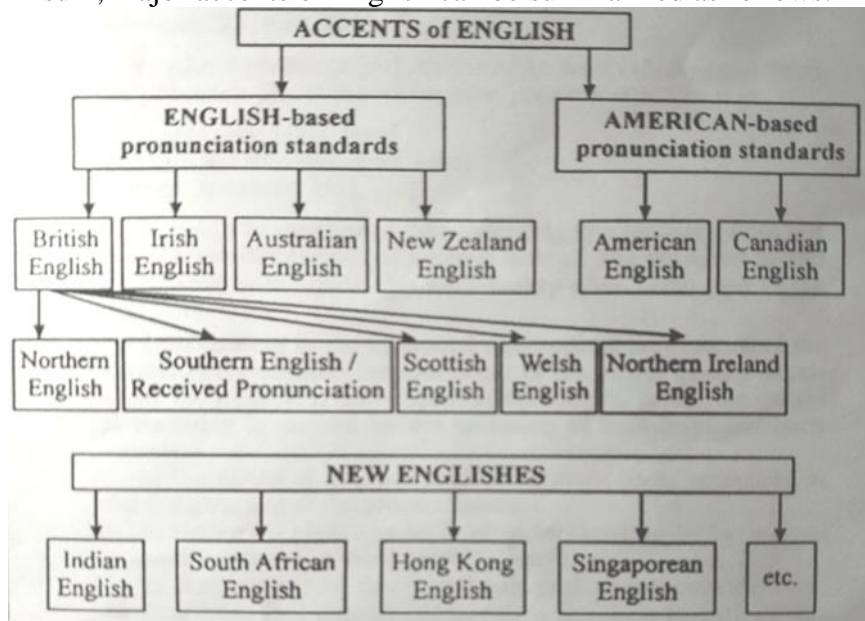
Such languages are linguistically simplified, i.e. they typically have a limited vocabulary, a reduced grammatical structure and a narrow range of functions compared to the languages from which they derive. For example, speakers of ordinary languages have approximately 25-30,000 words. Speakers of Neomelanesian use approximately 1,500 items. Here are a few examples from various linguistic sources illustrating grammatical and lexical contrasts of Standard English and Pidgin English:

English	Pidgin English
A hungry man doesn't sit down in one place [Romaine, 1994:174]	Hongri man no de set dan won ples
Lots of men have no wives	Plenti man no get woman
Grass	Gras
Moustache	Mouthgras
Beard	Gras bilong fes
Hair	Gras bilong hed
Eyebrow	Gras antop long ai
Weed	Gras nogut

A creole is a second stage in the process of the pidgin development, i.e. it is a pidgin language which has become the mother tongue of a community when within a multilingual community, increasing number of people begin to use a pidgin as their principal means of communication [3: 146]. This causes a major expansion of the grammar and vocabulary, and the range of the situations where the language is used. When the children of the speakers of a pidgin begin to use it as their mother tongue, that language becomes known as a creole. In other words, a creole is the first language of the children of Pidgin speakers.

There are considered to be between six and twelve million people still using pidgin languages, and between ten and seventeen million using creoles [3: 234]. English-based creoles are used in Jamaica and Sierra Leone.

In sum, major accents of English can be summarized as follows:



The following two accents of English have been under extensive investigation due to their importance, prestige and social advantage in certain geographical areas:

- 1) Southern English or RP/BBC English;
- 2) General American/GenAm or Network English.

PECULIARITIES OF BRITISH ACCENTS

1. RP (Received Pronunciation)

It has long been believed that RP is a social marker, a prestige accent of an Englishman. In the nineteenth century "received" was understood in the sense of "accepted in the best society". The speech of aristocracy and the court phonetically was that of the London area. Then it lost its local characteristics and was finally fixed as a ruling-class accent, often referred to as "King's 'English'". It was also the accent taught at public schools.

With the spread of education cultured people not belonging to the upper classes were eager to modify their accent in the direction of social standards.

We may definitely state now that RP is a genuinely regionless accent within Britain; i.e. if speakers have it you cannot tell which area of Britain they come from; which is not the case for any other type of British accents.

It is fair to mention, however, that only 35 per cent of the population of England speak RP. British phoneticians (Ch. Barber, A.C. Gimson, A. Hughes and P. Trudgill [1]) estimate that nowadays RP is not homogeneous. A.C. Gimson suggests that it is convenient to distinguish three main types within it: "the conservative RP forms, used by the older generation, and, traditionally, by certain profession or social groups; the general RP forms, most commonly in use and typified by the pronunciation adopted by the BBC, and the advanced RP forms, mainly used by young people of exclusive social groups - mostly of the upper classes, but also for prestige value, in certain professional circles" (1: 88).

This last type of RP reflects the tendencies typical of changes in pronunciation. It is the most "effected and exaggerated variety" of the accent. Some of its features may be results of temporary fashion, some are adopted as a norm and described in the latest textbooks. Therefore, it is very important for a teacher and learner of English to distinguish between the two. RP speakers make up a very small percentage of the English population. Many native speakers, especially teachers of English and professors of colleges and universities (particularly from the South and South-East of England) have accents closely resembling RP but not identical to it. P. Trudgill and J. Hannah call it Near-RP southern. So various types of standard English pronunciation may be summarized as follows: Conservative RP; General RP; Advanced RP; Near-RP southern.

According to Prof. J.C. Wells, contemporary RP/BBC English does not constitute a single variety but a set of varieties correlating with the speakers' education, social status and other social factors: 1) Mainstream RP (the accent of middle class educated speakers);

2) U-RP (upper-crust, aristocratic RP): 3) Adoptive RP (the accent of the adults who did not speak RP as children); 4) Near-RP (the accent of the speakers preserving strong regional features) [1: 79].

Three main types of RP are distinguished by A. C. Gimson and A. Cruttenden:

1) General RP 2) Refined RP and 3) Regional RP.

General RP reflects the pronunciation of middle class educated speakers. Refined RP is defined as an accent reflecting a class distinction associated with upper-class families, and the number of its speakers is declining.

Nowadays British phoneticians refer to an educated accent in London and the south-east which is termed Estuary English (EE) (англійська вимова в дельті Темзи). EE is said to "be adopted by those wishing to avoid the stigma of RP as "posh" and by upwardly mobile speakers of local dialect. It is often characterized among younger speakers as having "street credibility" or streetered, i.e. as being fashionable" [1: 81].

It is early to predict the future development of RP for sure, but its recent extensively permissive attitude to pronunciation variants, the existence of varieties within it correlating with different criteria should be taken into account by EFL learners today. In fact, the term RP has become imprecise, but it still has wide currency in books on contemporary English pronunciation. In Professor Wells's opinion, "EFL teachers working within a British-oriented environment should continue to use RP ...as their pronunciation model. But this model must be revised and updated from time to time" [2: 34].

2. Southern English Accents

We now turn to an examination of regional non-RP accents of England and we shall first give a brief outline of the group of Southern accents.

As was stated above, educated Southern speech is very much near-RP accent whereas non-standard accents are very much near Cockney. Therefore we shall focus our attention on the rather detailed description of uneducated London accent - Cockney.

Cockney accent. It has been long established that Cockney is a social accent — the speech of working-class areas of the Greater London. Here are some pronunciation peculiarities of it.

In vowels

1. [ʌ] is realized as [æɪ]: blood [bʌd] - [blæɪd];
2. [æ] is realized as [ɛ] or [ɛɪ]: bag [bæɡ] - [bɛɡ], [bɛɪɡ];
3. [ɪ] in word-final position sounds as [i:]: city ['sɪtɪ] - ['sɪti:];
4. when [ɔ:] is non-final, its realization is much closer, it sounds like [o:]: pause [pɔ:z] [po:z];
5. the diphthong [eɪ] is realized as [æɪ] or [aɪ]: lady ['leɪdɪ] - ['læɪdɪ], ['laɪdɪ];

In consonants

1. [h] in unstressed position is almost invariably absent;
2. [ʔ] is widely spread in Cockney speech: paper [pæɪʔpə];
3. The contrast between [θ] and [f] is completely lost: thin [fin], booth [buf];
4. The contrast between [ð] and [v] is occasionally lost: weather [wevə];
5. when [ð] occurs initially it is either dropped or replaced by [d]: this [(d)ɪs], them [(d)æm];

3. Estuary English

One of the British accents (or dialects?) that has received a lot of publicity since the mid 80s of the last century is Estuary English (EE) named so after the banks of the river Thames and its estuary. Some researches predict that EE is due to take over as the new standard of English, others are more cautious in their assessment of its status. They claim that BE is an accent which incorporates a mixture of south-eastern, RP and Cockney features and which has been gaining popularity with educated speakers not only in London and in the estuary of the Thames, but in other areas due to high mobility of the population.

The term Estuary English was coined in 1984 by David Roseware, who at that time was a post-graduate student of Applied Linguistics. He defines HE as follows "Estuary English is a variety

of modified regional speech. It is a mixture of non-regional and local south-eastern pronunciation and intonation. If one imagines a continuum with Received Pronunciation and London speech (Cockney) at either end, EE speakers are to be found grouped in the middle ground" [3: 86]. EE received great media attention in 1993 when Paul Coggle's book was published "Do you speak Estuary?" which was subtitled 'the new Standard English'.

A wealth of sources on EE can be found at <http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/home/estuary/> him, some of them being debatable and/or controversial. In our opinion, a reasonable approach to the subject of EE, useful for EFL practices, is given by J. C. Wells and J. A. Maidment [1]. Here we will summarize major phonetic characteristics of EE based on the findings of the above mentioned scholars. According to J. C. Wells, many of the features that distinguish EE from RP are features it shares with Cockney. Unlike Cockney, EE is associated with standard grammar and usage. But EE agrees with Cockney and differs from RP, in having (perhaps variably):

1. happyY-tensing- tense vowel i at the end of *happy, coffee, valley* etc.

2. T glottalling finally, e.g. *take i? off. qui le nice* etc.

3. L vocalization - pronouncing the l sound in preconsantal and final positions almost like [w], e.g. *milk, bottle, etc.*;

4. Yod coalescence in stressed syllables, e.g. *Tuesday, tune* etc. that makes the first part of Tues- sound identical to *choose* or *duke, reduce* etc. making the second part of *reduce* identical to *juice*.

5. diphthong shift: the diphthongal vowels of *face, price, goat* in BE are those that would be used by Cockney speakers.

J. C. Wells claims that " ...EE is a new name but not a new phenomenon, being the continuation of a trend that has been going on for five hundred years or more - the tendency for features of popular London speech to spread out geographically (to other parts of the country) and socially (to higher classes). The erosion of the English class system and the greater social mobility in Britain today means that this trend is more noticeable today than was once the case ..." [2: 53].

EFL teachers should pursue a realistic aim: rather than trying to adopt EE, it is more advisable to teach up-to-date RP gradually incorporating typical changes of BE.

4. Northern And Midland Accents

Midland accents, Yorkshire, for example, West Midland and North-West accents have very much in common with Northern ones. Therefore they are combined in this book into one group; peculiar realization of vowels and consonants will be marked, of course, when each subgroup is described separately.

1) Northern accents

The counties of northern England are not far from the Scottish border, so the influence of Scotch accent is noticeable, though there are of course many features of pronunciation characteristic only of northern English regions. The most typical representative of the speech of this area is Newcastle accent.

2) Yorkshire accents

Yorkshire and Bradford accents are identical with northern vowel features (only many speakers pronounce words which have "ow", "ou" in spelling with [ɜʊ]: know [nɜʊ]).

Now having accomplished the description of regional non-RP accents of England we would like to say that we didn't attempt to give a detailed account of all the regional differences in accents of remote rural areas. Rather we concentrated on urban accents which can be heard when one travels throughout the country and which are most likely to be encountered by foreign tourists.

5. Welsh English

As you probably know Wales is a bilingual area. There are places in Wales which have been English-speaking for centuries - the Pembroke area, for example, on the southern coast of Dyfed. But they are the exception rather than the rule. Although ordinary Welshmen have had some acquaintance with English since the Middle Ages, they have not had it as their mother tongue, as their first language, until quite recently - a matter of a century or two. In looking at the pattern of English in Wales today, one must remember

that North America, for instance, has had a substantial body of native English speakers for longer than Wales has. Welsh English, as & native language, is mostly not much older than South African English.

In Wales English dominates over Welsh in urban areas, in the west and north-west of the country the balance being in favour of Welsh, where English is learnt at schools as a second language. At the moment nationalistic feelings are rather strong in Wales and we are witnessing a movement in favour of the revival of the Welsh language and its spread in all areas of Wales.

However, Welsh English at the level of educated speech and writing is not much different from that of English English. Most differences are found at the level of more localized dialects.

Welsh accents have one unusual stressing characteristic. This relates to longer words and compounds, and consists in the avoidance, in many instances, of secondary stresses in the word - stresses other than the main word stress - together with resyllabication. Thus Bridgend is pronounced [brɪdʒ'end]: compare its RP form ['brɪdʒ'end], optionally reducible, depending on rhythmic factors, to [brɪdʒ'end] or ['brɪdʒənd].

Popular English views about Welsh accents include the claim that they have a 'sing-song' or 'lilting' intonation. This is felt particularly to be the case for the industrial valleys of south Wales which have only rather recently abandoned Welsh as first language.

Certainly rhythm and intonation are among the diagnostic characteristics for recognizing an accent as Welsh. In the absence of a proper investigation of the intonation of Welsh English, I can suggest only that one striking usage is that of a rise-fall tone in cases where standard accents would have a simple fall, e.g. *It's no longer valid* (= RP *It's no longer valid*). This gives the impression of throwing into inexplicable prominence the syllable after the one bearing the intonation nucleus. The width of this rise-fall is more striking in the Valleys than in Cardiff: thus *It's a nice day, isn't it?*

There is also something noticeable about the high-rise tone in Welsh English. Where there is a tail, the nuclear syllable is low and level, the tail steadily rising, and the whole thing rather more rapid

than in RP; and it is used in yes-no questions where RP might well prefer a low-rise.

6. Scottish English

We must first make clear that the status of Scottish English is still debated. Some linguists say that it is a national variant. Others say that it is a dialect.

Scotland has always had a linguistic tradition rather different from that of England.

This is partly for political reasons: until 1707 Scotland was an independent state, and in the 1970s we have seen a resurgence of national consciousness, an awareness of distinctness.

Linguistically this is reflected in the fact that RP does not enjoy the same tacit status in Scotland as it does in England and Wales; a Scottish accent can be prestigious in a way that a local English accent is not. In the Highlands and Islands of northern and western Scotland, however, Gaelic (the Celtic language closely related to Irish) is still the native language of thousands of speakers from these regions.

A standardized form of this language, known as Scots, was used at the court and in literature until the Reformation.

Then it was gradually replaced by English. Incidentally a number of writers and poets of the likes of R. Burns retained their native language.

Nowadays educated Scottish people speak a form of Scottish Standard English which grammatically and lexically is not different from English used elsewhere, although with an obvious Scottish accent. We must admit, however, that non-standard dialects of Scotland still resemble Scots and in many respects are radically different from most other varieties of English. It is very difficult to understand them for students who learn RP.

At the moment there is currently a strong movement in Scotland for the revival of Scots. Nevertheless Scottish Standard English is still more prestigious and in this book we concentrate on Scottish English as used and spoken by educated urban Scots.

As for the status of Scottish English, in this book it will be treated as a dialect though it is fair to say that there is much in favour of calling it a national variant of English.

In popular Scottish speech there are certain weak forms sharply distinct phonetically from those found outside Scotland. Thus to may be [te] or [tt], as against the [tu ~ tu ~ ta] of English accents.

Speaking about intonation, 2 patterns should be mentioned as particularly Scottish. One is a nuclear tone which might be described as a narrow high to high-mid fall. The other is a pattern involving a series of falls (or rise-falls), one on each accented syllable in the utterance, with a particularly wide fall on the first accented syllable (the onset of the head) and another on the last accented syllable (the nucleus). Analysing the conversational intonation of speakers from Ayr, Paisley, and West Kilbride (all in western Scotland), McClure [2: 31] pays particular attention to this pattern. He shows that for statements the two particularly salient such accented syllables have high fall and high fall, for wh-questions high fall and mid fall, and for yes-no questions mid fall and high fall.

7. Ireland and Northern Ireland English

It should be stated first of all that English pronunciation standards in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Eire are different. The explanation lies in history.

In the Middle Ages almost the whole of Ireland was Irish speaking. Nowadays, however, native speakers of Irish are few in number and are confined to rural areas even though Irish is the official language of Ireland and is taught in schools. The English language in Southern Ireland was originally introduced from the West and West Midlands of England and still shows signs of this today. This kind of English has spread to cover most of the Irish Republic. Naturally the pronunciation of these areas retains features of western parts of England.

The English of northern parts of the island with its centre in Belfast has its roots in Scotland, as large numbers of settlers came to this part from the south-west of Scotland from the seventeenth

century onwards. Now speaking about Northern Ireland, it is true to say that English here is not homogeneous. Areas of the far north are heavily Scots-influenced. Other parts are marked by less heavily Scots-influenced varieties of English. It is, of course, obvious that the language distinction is not coterminous with the political division of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, some areas of the Republic, Donegal, for instance, speak N. Ir.Eng. (Northern Ireland English), while some of the northern provinces speak S. Ir. Eng. (Southern Ireland English).

Realizationally, the most striking characteristics are the generally monophthongal vowels in FACE and GOAT; in the south, unrounded vowels in Lot and THOUGHT, but rounded in STRUT; in the north, fronted and possibly unrounded vowels in FOOT - GOOSE and MOUTH, along with idiosyncratic vowel qualities in KIT, DRESS, TRAP, and LOT; in the south, the realization of /θ, ð/ as plosives (t, d); everywhere, the predominantly clear /l/ and dark (retroflex) /ɾ/.

Word stress seems to be rather more flexible in Irish accents than in RP: affluence alongside 'affuence, discipline or 'discipline, or'chestra or 'orchestra, municipal or 'municipal (RP municipal).

One type of stress variability can perhaps be captured by saying that the Alternating Stress Rule of SPE is optional in Irish English: hence the prevalence of stressings such as concen'trate, educate, exaggerated, recog'nize, specialized, subsequently (all alongside RP-type initial stressed alternatives). Some alternate educate with He educated her, 'recognize with He recog'nized her, where adding an unstressed pronoun triggers a stress shift.

The intonation of (southern) Irish English has been little studied: but it is not strikingly different from that of RP. One apparently valid difference of some importance is that in an Irish accent yes-no questions are normally said with a low-fall nuclear tone (as against the low-rise of RP).

Belfast intonation (and probably that of Ulster English in general) is strikingly different both from that of RP and from that of southern Irish English. In a very high proportion of tone groups the nuclear tone is rising rather than falling; a rise is the unmarked tone

not only for questions but also for statements and commands. A fall is used only for echo questions and for exclamations, or as part of a compound fall + rise tone on statements. Both rises and falls also differ in realizational detail from those of standard accents. The rises are abrupt, a following tail being on a plateau (compare RP rises, which are spread over any tail). The falling tone moves only down to mid level (compare RP falls, which usually reach quite a low pitch). In fig. 14 we see typical Belfast intonation patterns, set against their RP semantic equivalents (from Jarman & Cruttenden 1976).

CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF AMERICAN ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION

The American variant of English has been very thoroughly described by many prominent scholars both in this country and in the USA. In this book, however, we shall try to follow the conception introduced by A.D. Shweitzer in his sociolinguistic approach to the treatment of contemporary speech situation in America [3].

The sociolinguistic situation in the United States is very complicated. It is moulded by certain linguistic, cultural, historic, demographic, geographic, political and other factors.

Generally speaking, the situation in the USA may be characterized as exoglossic, i.e. having several languages on the same territory, the balance being in favour of American English.

It is true, of course, that the formation of the American Standard underwent the influence of minorities' languages, but its starting point was the English language of the early 17th century. However, time has passed, American English has drifted considerably from English English though as yet not enough to give us ground to speak of two different languages. Thus we speak of the national variant of English in America.

American English shows a lesser degree of dialect than British English due to some historical factors: the existence of Standard

English when first English settlers came to America, the high mobility of population, internal migrations of different communities and so on. As regards pronunciation, however, it is not at all homogeneous. There are certain varieties of educated American speech. In the USA three main types of cultivated speech are recognized: the Eastern type, the Southern type and Western or General American.

The Eastern type is spoken in New England, and in New York city. It bears a remarkable resemblance to Southern English, though there are, of course, some slight differences.

The Southern type is used in the South and South-East of the USA. It possesses a striking distinctive feature - vowel drawl, which is a specific way of pronouncing vowels, consisting in the diphthongization and even triphthongization of some pure vowels and monophthongization of some diphthongs at the expense of prolonging ("drawling") their nuclei and dropping the glides.

The third type of educated American speech is General American (GA), also known as Northern American or Western American spoken in the central Atlantic States: New York, New Jersey, Wisconsin and others. GA pronunciation is known to be the pronunciation standard of the USA. There are some reasons for it. GA is the form of speech used by the radio and television. It is mostly used in scientific, cultural and business intercourse. Also in two important business centres - New York and St. Louis - GA is the prevailing form of speech and pronunciation, though New York is situated within the territory where Eastern American is spoken, and St. Louis is within the region of Southern American. In this chapter we shall give an outline of GA accent. We will then point to differences between this accent and RP.

There is no strict division of vowels into long and short in GA, though some American phoneticians suggest that certain

GA vowels are tense and likely to be accompanied by relative length: [i:] in seat, [u:] in pool.

They also admit that a slight rise in tongue position during the pronunciation of tense vowels leads to a diphthongal quality of tense vowels which contrasts to a monophthongal quality of lax vowels.

Classification of vowels according to the stability of articulation is the most controversial subject in GA. Some diphthongs are treated in GA as biphonemic combinations. The inventory of GA diphthongs varies from three to twelve phonemes. Scientists [3] distinguish here five diphthongs in GA: [eɪ], [aɪ], [ɔɪ], [aʊ], [oʊ].

Another very important feature that causes different interpretations of diphthongs and vowel length in GA is the pronunciation of r sound between a vowel and a consonant or between a vowel and a silence: turn [tɜ:rn], bird [bɜ:rd].

It has been estimated that 2/3 of American population pronounce (r) and 1/3 omit it. Thus GA is rhotic in words like far, core, etc. (when [r] follows the vowels and ends the word), this sound is consonantal and non-syllabic.

It involves the characteristic hindering of the free flow of breath which we associate with consonants. The sound [r] in far closes the syllable more definitely than in British Received Pronunciation of the word (fa:). On the other hand, there is a vocalic, or vowel-like and syllabic (r), that occurs in words like bird, murmur (after a vowel and before a consonant).

One more peculiar feature of pronunciation of vowels in American English is their nasalization, when they are preceded or followed by a nasal consonant (e.g. in such words as take, small, name, etc.). Nasalization is often called an American twang. It is incidental and need not be marked in phonemic transcription.

GA front vowels are somewhat different from RP. Vowels [i:], [ɪ] are distributed differently in GA and RP.

In words like very, pity GA has [i:] rather than [ɪ]. In word final position it is often even diphthongized.

Vowel [e] is more open in GA. It also may be diphthongized before [p], [t], [k]: let [lɛət].

The three RP vowels [ɒ], [æ], [ɑ:] correspond to only two vowels in GA — [a] and [æ]. This combined with the articulatory differences between RP [ɒ] and GA [a] and a difference in vowel distribution in many sets of words makes it very complicated.

The RP allophonic differentiation of [ɪ] does not exist in GA. In all positions [ɪ] is fairly dark.

Intervocalic [t] as in *pity* is most normally voiced. The result is neutralization of the distribution between [t] and [d] in this position, i.e. *latter*, *ladder*. The original distinction is preserved through vowel length with the vowel before [t] being shorter.

In words like *twenty*, *little* [t] may even drop out. Thus *winner* and *winter*, for example, may sound identical.

GA [r] is articulated differently from RP one. The impression is one of greater retroflexion (the tip of the tongue is curled back further than in RP).

The "wh" spelling is represented in GA by [hw] sound. So most American speakers make a clear distinction between "wh" and "w" words: *where* - *ware*, *which* - *witch*.

The sonorant [j] is usually weakened or omitted altogether in GA between a consonant (especially a forelingual one) and [u:] as in the words: *news* [nu:z], *Tuesday* [ˈtu:zdi], *student* [ˈstu:dent], *suit* [su:t], *tube* [tu:b], *stupid* [stu:pɪd], *during* [du:rin].

Non-systematic Differences between General American and Received Pronunciation

Many differences involve the pronunciation of individual words or groups of words.

Words *apparatus*, *data*, *status* can be pronounced with either [æ] or [eɪ] in GA, but only with [eɪ] in RP.

Words like *hostile*, *missile*, *reptile* have final [aɪl] in RP. In GA they may have [əl].

Some compound words have stress on the first element in GA and in RP they retain it on the second element: *weekend*, *ice-cream*, *hotdog*, *New Year*.

Polysyllabic words ending in -ory, -ary, -mony have secondary stress in GA, often called "tertiary": *laboratory* [ˈlæbrə.tɔri], *dictionary* [ˈdɪkʃə.neri], *secretary* [ˈsekɹə.teri], *testimony* [ˈtesti.mouni].

Intonation Differences

GA intonation on the whole is similar to that of RP. But there are, of course, some differences that should be mentioned here.

1. In sentences where the most common pre-nuclear contour in RP is a gradually descending sequence, the counterpart GA contour is a medium Level Head:

The usual Medium or Low Fall in RP has its rising-falling counterpart in GA:

The rising terminal tone in RP in GA has a mid-rising contour. Or it may have a level tone in GA. The Fall-Rise nuclear tone is different in RP and GA:

These comparisons show that the main differences in intonation concern the direction of the voice pitch and the realization of the terminal tones. In GA the voice doesn't fall to the bottom mostly. This explains the fact that the English speech for Americans sounds "affected" and "pretentious" or "sophisticated". And for the English, Americans sound "dull", "monotonous", "indifferent".

It should also be mentioned that the distribution of terminal tones in sentence types is also different in both variants of English.

1. GA "Yes, No" questions commonly have a falling terminal tone; the counterpart RP tone would be a rising one.

It is certain that we have not covered here all the cases of different intonation structures used in RP and GA. Recently there have appeared in this country several papers and books on the subject, so for further information see those books.

CANADIAN ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION

Canada has two official languages, English and French. Three in every four native-born Canadians - some 14 million – have English as their mother tongue. The other fourth speak French; there are also small communities speaking Scottish Gaelic, Eskimo, and Amerindian languages. The languages brought in by recent immigrants (notably Ukrainian, German, Italian, and Polish) have not generally persisted beyond the foreign-born generation.

The British usually take English-speaking Canadians for Americans. This is upsetting to some Canadians, who tend to feel that the speech of Americans is, or should be, clearly distinguishable from their own. It was after all the Canadians who remained loyal to Britain when the United States broke away two centuries ago. Yet the British can be forgiven for this error: a typical Canadian accent agrees with GenAm rather than with RP at almost every point where these reference accents differ from one another: amongst other things, it is rhotic, with flat BATH and T Voicing Canadian pronunciation is extremely homogeneous, considering the vastness of the territory over which it extends and the varied history of settlement. From Ottawa to Vancouver is more than 3000 kilometres; their accents are virtually the same. Not only is there very little geographical variation, but what social variation there is in accent seems to be confined to trivial details of lexical incidence.

Only to the east of Ontario do we begin to find more variety.

Newfoundland, in particular, stands quite apart from the rest of Canada.

Dialectologists divide Canada into three principal dialect areas:

Newfoundland, eastern Canada (including the Maritimes and Ontario) and western Canada. The differences between the latter two areas hardly involve pronunciation. Consequently, it will be convenient here first to deal with all of Canada except Newfoundland, and then to discuss Newfoundland separately.

Close contact between Canada and the United States is of long standing, and the border has never been a great barrier to the movement of populations. After the expulsion of the Acadians from Nova Scotia, their farmlands were taken over by New Englanders;

Americans loyal to Britain during the War of Independence (the Revolution) settled in the Maritime provinces and Ontario. Today United States influence dominates the mass media in Canada as well as much of its commercial life. Yet membership of the Commonwealth, together with continuing immigration from Britain, has meant that Canada is and has been more receptive to British ways, and British habits of speech, than those living further south.

And now Canadians can look with a sense of national pride on their own unique blend of British and American culture and speech.

One of the most typical combinations of accent characteristics distinguishing (most) Canadians from Americans is the so-called "Canadian raising". The diphthongs [aɪ] and [aʊ] in CnE have a mid-central nucleus, but not the low one as in RP, before the following voiceless consonant, so [aɪ]=[əɪ] and [aʊ]=[ʌʊ] as in *price, mouth, and pipe, while, like, life, nice, our, south, couch*, etc. [3: 91).

There is no opposition [e]-[æ]-[ɛə] in words like *merry - marry - Mary*, where in all these cases [ɛ] is used. In words like *hurry, courage, current, worry* in CnE, just as well as in GenAm, [ɜr] is used as distinct from RP [ʌ].

Like GenAm speakers, most Canadians use the retroflex [r] and dark [ɹ] in all positions.

In both Canadian and American English, flapping of the alveolar sounds [t] [d] can occur between the two vowels, if the second is not stressed - it is a process of replacing an intervocalic /t/ or /d/ with a quick voiced tap of the tongue against the alveolar ridge, as in the words *waiting, wading, seated, seeded, capital, writer, rider*. In Canadian English, this feature is age-graded: older Canadians are less likely than younger ones to replace alveolar stops with flaps.

In cases of phoneme lexical selection/incidence, the general trend is for an increase in the use of 'American' variants at the expense of the 'British' ones. Thus *lever* with [-e], *either, neither* with /i:/, *missile* with /əl/ are reported more frequently by the younger age group (students) than by the older one (parents).

AUSTRALIAN ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION

The anglophone Australia and New Zealand are among the youngest nations in the world.

Australia has "a relatively recent history of European settlement with close political ties with Britain" [6: 250] (since the end of the

18^o century). The first Europeans took their residence here a little over two hundred years ago when Australia was founded as a penal colony. They were eventually followed by voluntary immigrants. Until now, the Australians with British ancestors are the predominant part of the population. Among them, the area where contemporary Australians most probably can find their ancestors is the region around London. The second important group of immigrants were Irish, mainly responsible for the huge number of Catholics in Australia. Nowadays there are more than 18 million speakers of English and 170,000 Australians or 1% of aboriginal descent.

The origin of the name Australia goes back to the 16th century when European philosophers and mapmakers of that time assumed a great southern continent existed south of Asia. They called this hypothetical place Terra Australis, Latin for 'southern land'.

Matthew Flinders was the first person to circumnavigate and map Australia's coastline, and also to publicly express his endorsement for the name 'Australia'.

Today, Australia is the sixth largest country in the world by area (and in some 30 times bigger than Great Britain). Australian population is mostly urban, living in the fertile arcas near the coast. Nearly half of the country's population lives in its four major cities:

Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth. Nationwide communications are dependent on transportation lines and the standard language of the media.

These factors may promote an impression that there is little geographic variation in Australia. But Australian English (AuE) displays social variation. With hardly any grammatical distinctiveness to point to, the most distinctive feature of AuE is its accent [6: 350].

Pronunciation has its own history. The peculiarities of English pronunciation in Australia are, so far, less investigated and described in linguistic literature, than those of American English pronunciation, for example.

Following A. G. Mitchell, A. Delbridge, S. Baker, G. Orlov and other investigators of AuE, three major varieties can be

distinguished in it: Cultivated (or Educated) Australian (CAus), General Australian (GAuE) and Broad Australian (BAuE) [6: 151].

Cultivated Australian is an accent used by about 10 per cent of the population. RP continues to exert a considerable influence on it.

General Australian is the most characteristic type of AuE pronunciation. It is, so to speak, the language of communication. According to A. Mitchell, GAuE is used by "people of good education and high standing in the community (at least by 55 percent of the Australians)". It is the type of accent heard on TV and the radio, in other public institutions.

Broad Australian (Uneducated, Popular Australian) is a substandard accent distinguished from the others chiefly by its vowels, the nature of its diphthongs and a good deal of nasality - an 'Australian wang. The vowel system of Broad Australian is very similar to Cockney.

Generally speaking, differences between these major accents in AuE tend to be less marked. This type of English tends to become more and more homogeneous and uniform.

Still the differences in phonology/phonetics between RP and General Australian (GAuE), as the accent most widely used in Australia, are quite remarkable so that EFL learners should be aware of them.

GAuE intonation is investigated much less than its other phonological components. There is a general opinion that GAuE and RP intonational patterns are practically the same, but RP intonation is "more lively and vigorous" than GAuE. There is a common tendency in GAuE to "use longer word-groups". It is characterized by a slower rhythm which has a quality of monotony.

We should also mention a typical Australian intonation pattern consisting of a high head plus a rising nucleus, similar to that typically used in yes-no questions in RP and similar accents; what is characteristically Australian is its repeated use in simple statements.

Electro-acoustic analysis of the rising tone in GAuE "yes-or-no" questions shows that the initial rise occurs at the medium level, not lower than the preceding syllable, this rise is perceived as "higher" than its RP counterpart, which starts at the lowest pitch level, lower than the preceding syllable.

NEW ZEALAND ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION

New Zealand English (NZE) is used by some 3,2 million speakers, nearly 90% of the country's population. Besides English, Maori is the second official language of NZ. New Zealand English has a popular name of "NEWZILID"

The country has been settled by English-speaking people since about 1840. The first English-speaking settlers of New Zealand were Australian seal-hunters from the penal colony of Port Jackson (Sydney). Later settlers were mainly British. As most of its immigrants came from Australia, NZ, English shares almost the exact speech habits with Australian English. Native speakers of NZ can distinguish an Australian pronunciation quite readily, though the converse is not always true: Australians tend to classify a NZ accent as coming from a distant and unfamiliar part of Australia, such as Tasmania. Native speakers of English from other parts of the world, on the other hand, can usually not distinguish an NZ from an Australian pronunciation.

If your companion likes eating "feesh and cheeps," he or she is Australian. If, on the other hand, they prefer "fush and chups," you are undoubtedly dealing with a New Zealander [4: 21].

In NZE the centring diphthongs as in ear and air have merged for most young speakers whereas in AusE these two vowels remain very distinct.

Pronunciation of New Zealand sounds are best illustrated by a joke. The scene is North Africa, at the height of fierce battles in World War II. An Australian junior officer meets a British senior officer on the front.

"Good morning young man," says the British officer, "Did you come here to die?"

"No, Sir." replies the young Australian, "I came yesterday."

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Навчальне видання

**PHONETIC AND INTONATION FEATURES
OF SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL VARIANTS
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

МЕТОДИЧНІ РЕКОМЕНДАЦІЇ

до практичних занять та самостійної роботи
з навчальної дисципліни «Фонетичні та інтонаційні особливості
соціальних та територіальних варіантів англійської мови» для
здобувачів вищої освіти першого (бакалаврського) рівня
спеціальності В11 Філологія спеціалізації В11.041 Германські
мови та літератури (переклад включно), перша – англійська

Укладач:

Ланчуковська Надія Володимирівна

В авторській редакції

Підп. до друку 15.12.2025. Формат 60х90/16. Папір офсетний.
Гарн. “Times”. Друк цифровий. Ум. друк. арк. 2.

Наклад 100 пр.

Видавець Букаєв Вадим Вікторович

вул. Пантелеймонівська 34, м. Одеса, 65012.

Свідоцтво суб'єкта видавничої справи ДК № 2783 від 02.03.2007 р.

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