



زانكوۆی سه‌لاحه‌دین - هه‌ولێر  
Salahaddin University-Erbil

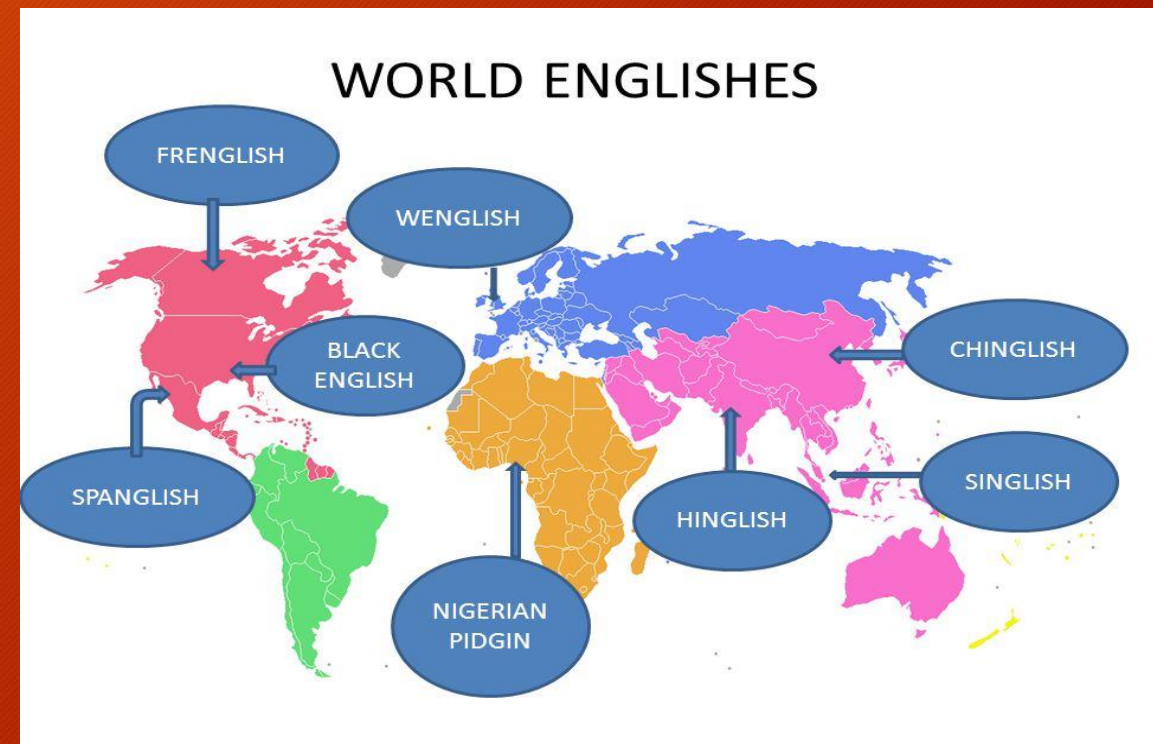
# The History of English Language

## All Kinds of English

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# The meaning of “A variety of English”

- A variety of English is a type of English spoken by one group of people.



# What enables us to distinguish various types of English language?

- English is the most widely-spoken language in the world.
- The **dialect or accent** is usually the factor that enables one to distinguish the various types of English out there.
- Like most languages, there are varieties of English too, however, the difference is not as prominent as you may see in other languages.



# The Varieties of English Language:

- 1 The older variety of English is “British English” which is spoken in the United Kingdom
- 2 American English
- 3 Canadian English
- 4 Australian English
- 5 New Zealand English
- 6 South African English
- 7 Indian English

All varieties of English share the same basic rules of the language. But, certain words, phrases or linguistic constructs may differ.

# British English

- In Great Britain, pronunciation reflects both regional and social factors. There are, of course, different geographical varieties: South-Western ('West Country') English, Northern English, Scottish English, and so forth. But what is traditionally characteristic of Britain, especially of England, is that many people are particularly conscious of accent as a class. Although no one English accent has official status, there are some widespread attitudes to different accents.

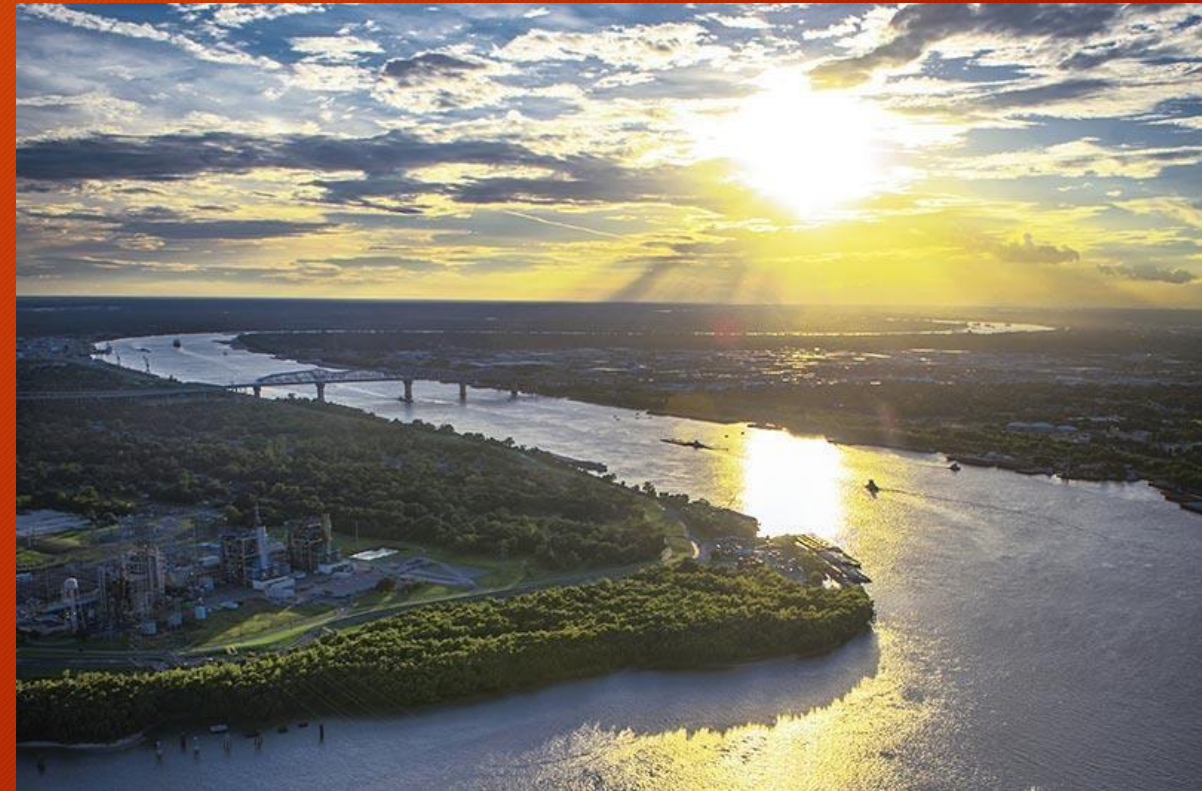
- In England, research has shown that **RP** (the ‘BBC accent’, associated with southern England) has a high rating as being **pleasing, articulate and prestigious.**
- In comparison, Northern accents (for example) are rated poorly for these qualities, especially urban accents. But this is only one side of the picture: for warmth and friendliness, the Northern accent does better than RP.

# American English

- the dialect variety in the United States is divided into six regions:

## Eastern New England:

- It is the area on the coast of Mississippi River. In this area the main characteristic feature is that they pronounce differently the letter “a” in some words as [a:], e.g., fast [fa:st], past [pa:st], grass [gra:s] and so on.

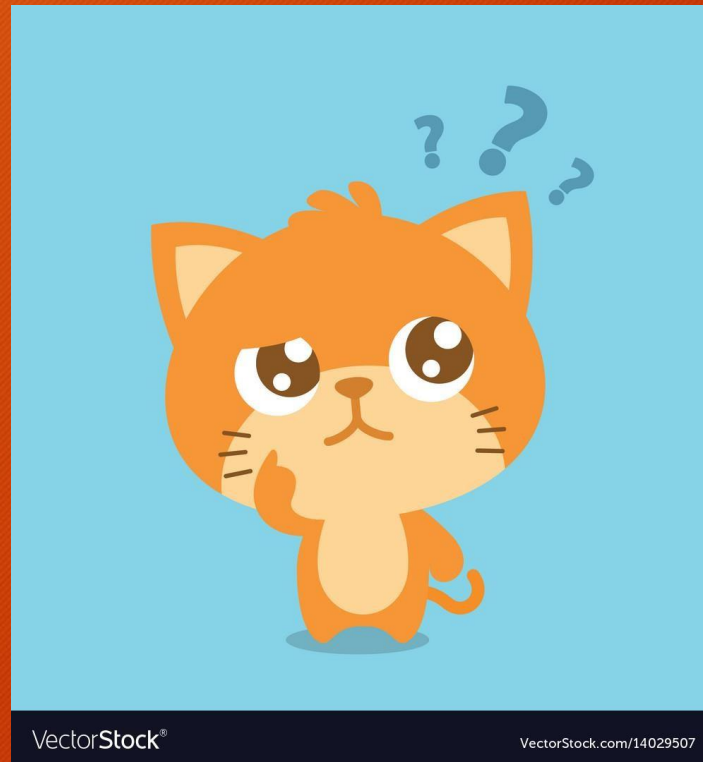


- They pronounce the letter “o” as [o] in words such as hot [hot], top [top]. The letter “r” (car [ka:], hard [ha:d] ) is not pronounced at the end of the words. We suppose that it is because of the influence of England and English people to that part of the U.S.A who settled here in the past. They try to follow the Standard English pronunciation.



# The dialect of New York City

**Q: Why are there pronunciation variations in New York City?**



# The dialect of New York City:

- It has to be pointed that in different parts of New York City there are different pronunciations.
- We think that, as New York is the main city of industry and it is the most famous city in the U.S.A., there are a lot of different nations in this city. That is why they influence to each other and to their speech. For this reason we suppose that there are dialect variations in New York City.



# Mid Atlantic Dialect

- It is the eastern part of Pennsylvania, northern Midland and the southern part of New Jersey. The main characteristic feature is that they don't round their lips while pronouncing the words hot [hʌt], top [tʌp].

# Western Pennsylvania dialect

- The main feature of this linguistic area is that it accepts all the rules of general American pronunciation. It means that they pronounce “a” as [æ], in the words such as past [pæst] and path [pæθ]. They pronounce “r” [r] sound everywhere as in word car [ka:r].



# Southern Upland dialect

- Sometimes it is difficult to point the borders of this area. Virginia and southern Carolina coasts belong to this area.
- In several regions of this area the pronunciation is the same as in New England.
- The main characteristic feature of this dialect is the absence of [r] sound as in hard [ha:d], far away [fa: ə'wei]. However, the letter “o” is pronounced as [ʌ], as in [hʌt]. Some words consisting of one syllable omits the last consonant as in words last [las], kept [kep], find [fain] and so on.

# General American Dialect

- General American is the form of speech used by the radio and television. It is mostly used in scientific, cultural and business.

# Black English

- One variety of American English that can be heard throughout the country and in a lot of popular music and media is African American English.
- African American English has influenced English language not less than other varieties.
- African American English goes by many other names including Black English, African American Vernacular English, African American Language.
- Black English accent—in other words the language of black people in the U.S. was not so interesting and important to linguists. Nowadays they have a great interest to this accent.
- The factor that differentiates black people from white is their pronunciation.

# Canadian English

- Canadian English is similar to both American and British English. It uses some American words and some British ones.





# Australian English

- The English of Canada is similar to both American and British English.
- It uses some British words and some American ones.



# New Zealand English South African English

- New Zealand English and South African English have some similarities to Australian English in their pronunciation because all three countries were settled by English speakers at about the same time.
- In African English there are a mixture of some African words because the type of English which is spoken in these countries has been influenced by their own local language.
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# Indian English

- Indian English (IE) is a class of varieties of the English language spoken in India, and among the Indian diaspora elsewhere in the world. English is used by the Indian government for communication along with Hindi.