

Accents, identity, and language prejudice

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Ten points to remember....

1. Language varies
2. Language changes over time
3. Accents aren't disappearing
4. Language 'standards' are arbitrary
5. Spoken language is inextricably linked to identity
6. Language-based prejudice is real
7. We all style-shift and that's (usually) OK
8. It's OK to have preferences
9. We should change how people listen, not how people speak
10. Criticism about the way someone speaks is always about more than language