

Language and Society (CL2.203)

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Standard Language

Standard language is a variety which, through human intervention, has undergone the process of standardisation.

The process of standardisation consists of

- selection – an existing variety or a mixture of existing varieties is chosen. The choice could be political or social.
- codification – some institution or agency works on arriving at the standard. *Correctness* is defined and enforced.
- elaboration
- acceptance – once the community accepts the standard, it becomes a symbol of unique identity as opposed to other varieties.