



## **The World of Languages and Languages of the World**

# **Variation: Dialects and Accents**

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Let's investigate regional dialects and accents in Britain today.

# Languages, Dialect and Accents: What's the difference?

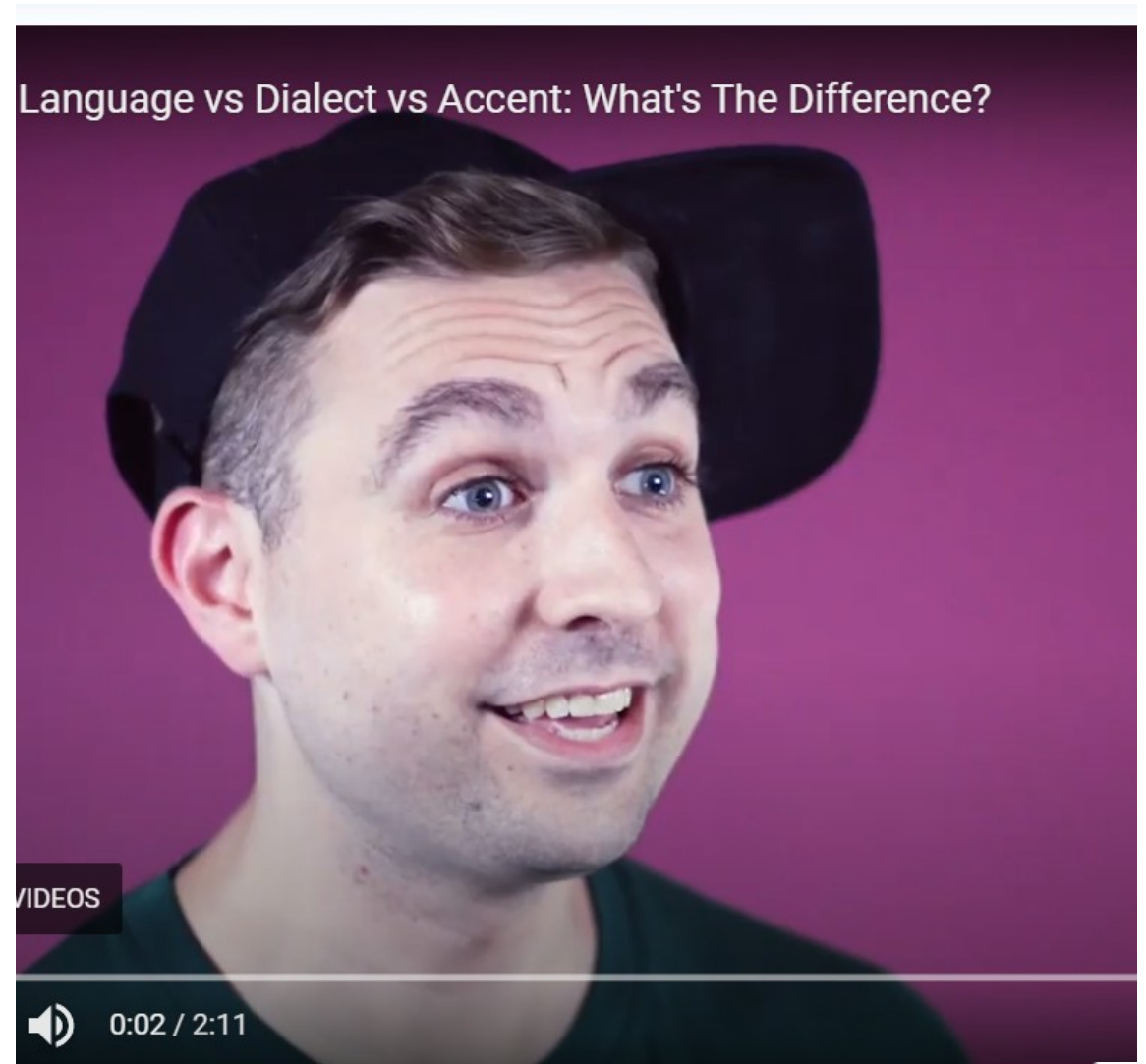
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Let's find out.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jxR2188FvLE>

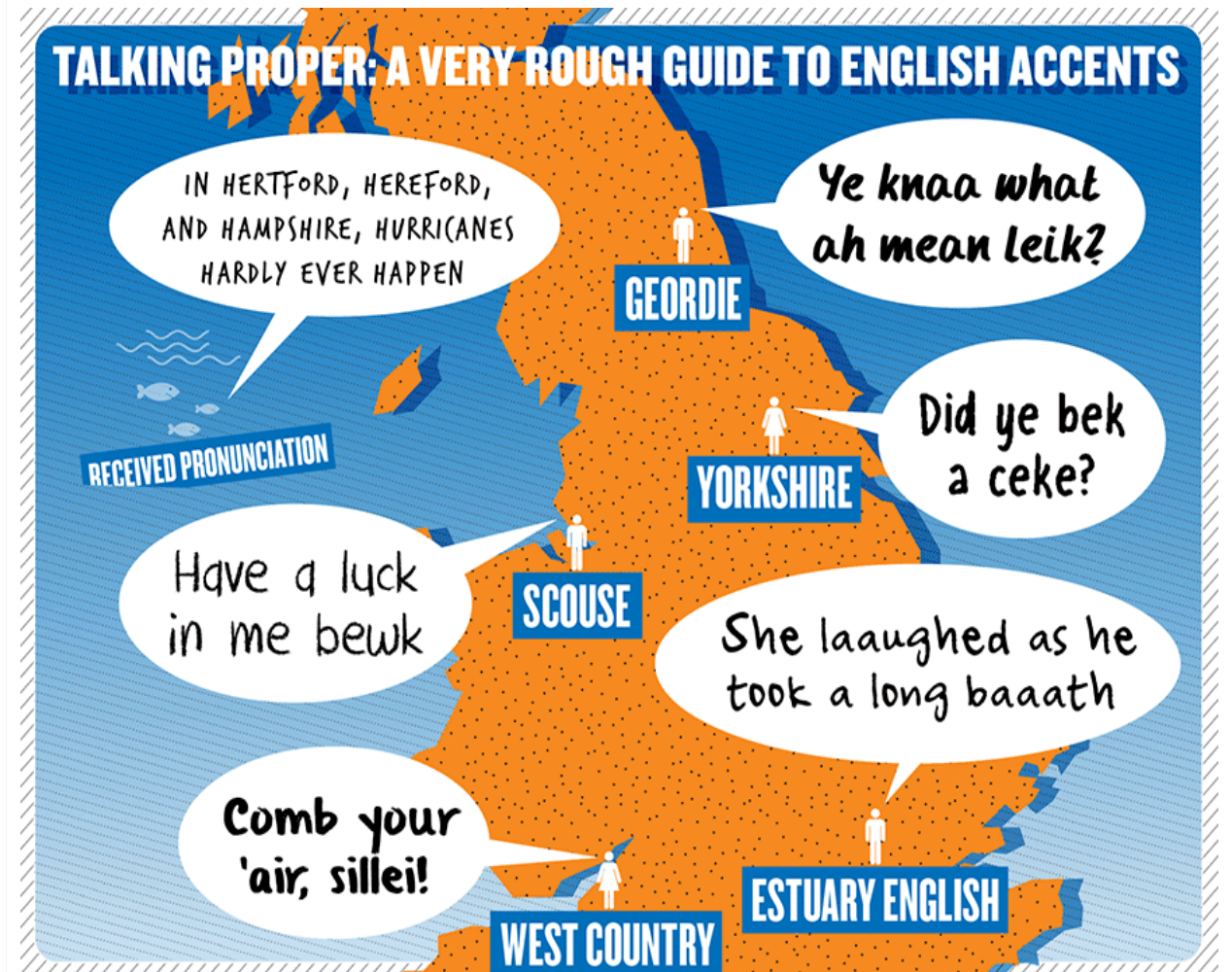
Make notes on the following categories:

- Language
- Dialect
- Accent



# Varieties.

- A **language** usually has a **border**.
- A **dialect** is a particular form of a language which is peculiar to a specific region or social group. It is spoken and has no standardized written form. It has its own **vocabulary** and **grammar**.
- An **accent** is part of a dialect. It is distinctive way of **pronouncing** a language, often associated with a particular country, area, or social class.



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Ἰννοτόμας  
WoLLOW the HIPPO

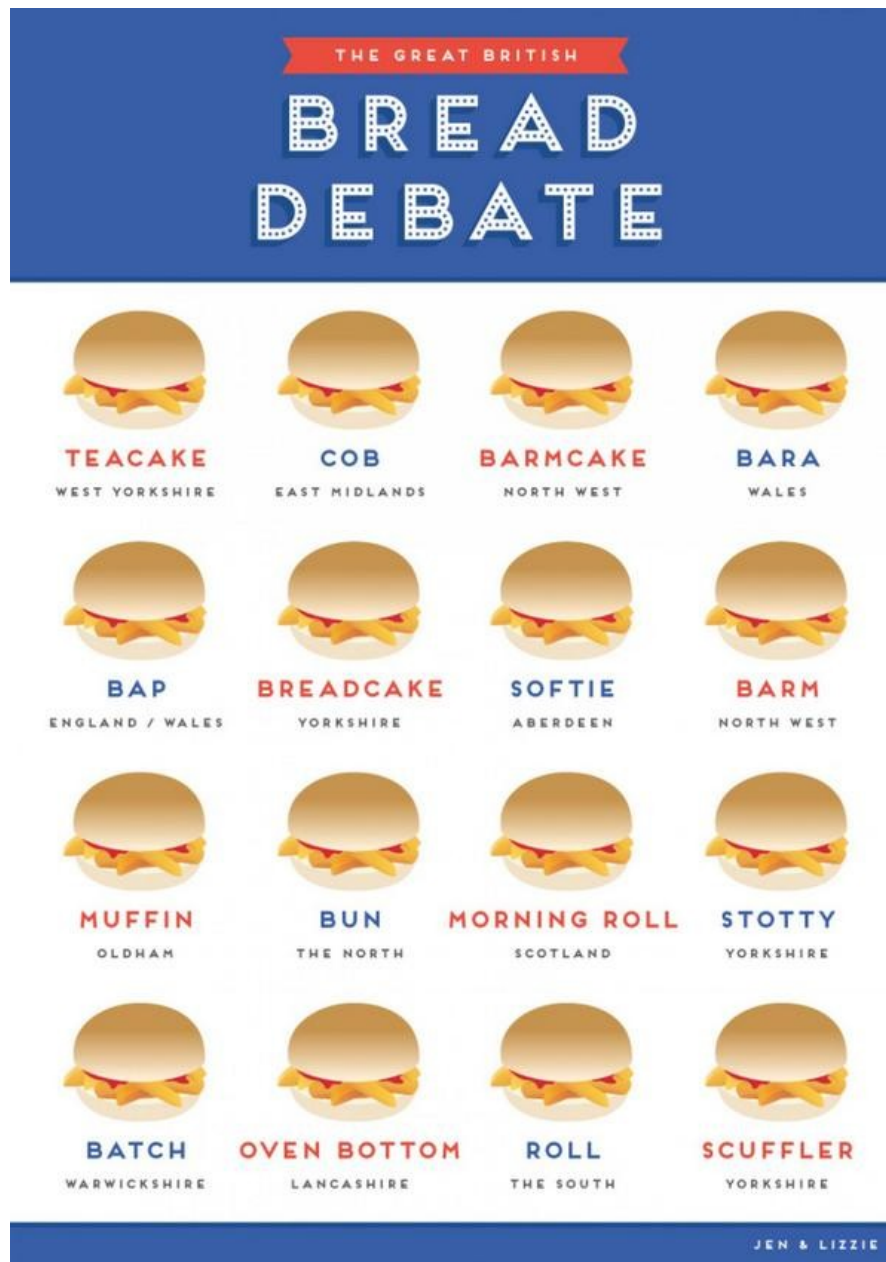
# A Tour of the British Isles in Accents

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- What accents did you hear?
- Which accents do you like?
- How do you think accents came to be so different?
- Which accents are spoken by your family and friends?
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-8mzWkuOxz8>







# Dialects in Britain

There are many terms for “bread roll”.

# Larn Yerself Norfolk! The Norfolk Dialect

- Click on the title to open the full glossary of Norfolk Dialect words.
- Do any of you speak Norfolk or have family that speak Norfolk?
- What Norfolk words do you know?
- Please change this slide to fit your local dialect.

([www.norfolkdialect.com](http://www.norfolkdialect.com))

## A

<i>Dialect word(s)</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
<b>Accordin-lie</b>	<i>Accordingly</i> : "Uhcordin-lie ter him". With emphasis on 'lie'.
<b>Acrorst</b>	<i>Across</i> : "I wet acrorst the rud to the busstop."
<b>Afore</b>	<i>Before</i> : "Afore yew go, ole paartner, less hevva drink."
<b>Afreard</b>	<i>Afraid</i> : "My dawg wuz hoolly afreard o" the dark, he wuz."
<b>Agin</b>	<i>Again, once more, or against</i> : "Thass cold agin, ent ut?"
<b>Alonga me</b>	<i>With me</i> : "Dew yew come alonga me!"
<b>Allus</b>	<i>Always</i> : "I allus cycle to wark."
<b>An'orl</b>	<i>And all, hence</i> : "An' yisterday wuz wet, an'orl."
<b>Arly</b>	<i>Early</i> : "Heh'yuh got yar arly tearters in yit?"
<b>Ar(t)er</b>	<i>After</i> : the 't' is barely pronounced, at the back of the throat, more like: "ar-uh"
<b>Arternune</b>	<i>Afternoon</i> : similar pronunciation to 'arter'.
<b>Atwin</b>	<i>Between</i> : "Atwin me, yew an' the geartepust...!"
<b>Ax</b>	<i>To ask</i> : "If yew watta cuppa, yew hatta ax proper fur it."
<b>Axed</b>	<i>Asked</i> : "Hev yew gotta loight, bor?" he axed.



# Writing in Dialect. It is non- standardised, but can we understand it?

NORFOLK DIALECT LETTER, 1848

LOOKEL GUVVERMINT

Deer Sir,

Bein a perookial elector I should like to says a few wuds about the Perish Counsels Act. I spose we all on us ha' bin a-studdyin its wariou pervisions. I'm not a-goin to go into the missa-lanous dooties witch will dewolve on the new boddies when they are duly gotten into wurreken order, but I may obsarve how-ever that the wuckhousen will go on as afore. There'll still be gargins elected only on a demma cratic princerpill.....

<http://www.norfolkdialect.com/letter.htm>

# A poem in Norfolk.

Take a look at the poem  
“Norfolk Threw and Threw” by  
Zena Tinsley.

- Say the poem aloud in your best Norfolk accent.
- Can you understand it?
- Is it easier to understand than the letter on the previous slide? Why, or why not?



This Photo by Unknown author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#).

Oi wuz born and brought up in Norridge  
a Tuckswood gal and proud  
but mum and dad were Lononers  
so em oi still allowed  
ter call moiself a dumplin' ?  
Oi dew hope thass tha case  
'cuz apart frum a dabble in Cambridge  
ah orlways lived in this place!  
Ah fished at Harford Bridges,  
picnicked at Dunston Com'n,  
paddled along the custline  
'n boo'ed inter Wroxham.  
Oi wuz a school gal at Tuckswood Infants,  
went from Harford to the Hurt, \*  
wuz an athlete for moi County  
(tho' now oi coont bloomin' well dirt!)  
Moi Sat'dy job wuz at Carrer Rud  
sellin' hot dorgs tew tha crowd,  
back when tha C'naries fust went up  
and wunt we awl hully proud!  
Then oi went ta study  
and hat-ter move away.  
Gort moi degree, come straight back hum,  
that wuz a happy day!  
Oi then become a teacher,  
in a Norfolk School a course,  
and larned all them little ole mawthers  
(and put up with thar sauce)!  
Now ah looked inta fam'ly hist'r'y  
and found ter moi suprise  
that m'ancestors they wunt Lononers  
but born under Norfolk skoies!  
In Kenninghall and in Forn'c'tt  
as oi did discover  
not far frum where ah settled now  
in sunny Dickleburgh.  
So thar! – Oi em a dumplin'  
Norfolk threw an' threw  
and hare is where moi haart loies  
and “diff'rent” oi shall “dew”.





# It Shouldn't Happen to a Vet

- Read the extract from the play in your workbooks.
- Next to each line tick the box or boxes which show that particular feature of the farmer's way of talking (some lines will be left blank).
- The extract is taken from James Herriot's book "It Shouldn't Happen to a Vet".

The farmer's report on his horses	Different grammar	Unique vocabulary	Accent
Well, she's about two-and-thirty and <u>gelding's</u> a year or two <u>younger</u> . She's had fifteen grand foals and never <u>ailed</u> <u>owt</u> except a bit of teeth trouble. We've had them <u>rasped</u> a time or two and it's time they were done again, I reckon.  They're both losing ground and dropping bits of half chewed hay from their mouths. Gelding's the worst – has a right job <u>champing</u> his grub.			

**There are accents and dialects in every language.**

<https://www.mosalingua.com/en/different-french-accent-around-the-world/>

Watch this short clip. You can scroll along the bottom of the clip to listen to different French accents and dialect. These are not restricted to France of course, as French is spoken in many countries.



**Let's find out what you think.**

**Tick yes, no or sometimes next to the following ten questions.**

**If you choose "sometimes" be ready to explain your thinking.**

	Yes	No	Sometimes
1. I change the way I speak when I'm with different people.			
2. I hide my accent or dialect.			
3. I am proud of how I speak.			
4. I use slang.			
5. My immediate family speak in a different language, accent or dialect to me.			
6. I am multilingual or bi-lingual.			
7. If I go abroad, I try to speak some words in their language.			
8. There is a proper way to speak.			
9. I am patient with people learning to speak English.			
10. How I speak is part of my identity.			

# A final thought...

- Listen again to the clip of British accents.
- **Accents, stereotype and prejudice.**
- Remember that accents and dialects are intrinsic to people's identity and sense of self.
- They are often linked to a social class and seen as less "proper" and that the people speaking them are therefore somehow less intelligent, less affluent or less educated.
- What are your thoughts about this, do you think it is fair?



Video by Black Box Voice



Ιπποπόταμος  
WoLLoW the HIPPO



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