

Pickering and Higgins: Opening scene

**Pickering:** Oh, well, anything is possible. I myself am a student of Indian dialects.

**Higgins:** Are you? Do you know Colonel Pickering, the author of “Spoken Sanskrit”?

**Pickering:** I am Colonel Pickering. Who are you?

**Higgins:** Henry Higgins, author of “Higgins’ Universal Alphabet”.

**Pickering:** I came from India to meet you!

**Higgins:** I was going to India to meet you!

**Pickering:** Higgins!

**Higgins:** Pickering! Where are you staying?

**Pickering:** At the Carleton.

**Higgins:** No, you’re not. You’re staying at 27-A Wimpole Street. Come with me and we’ll have a jaw over supper.

**Pickering:** Right you are.

**Higgins:** Indian dialects have always fascinated me. I have record of over fifty.

**Pickering:** Have you now. Did you know there are over two hundred?

**Higgins:** By George, it’s worse than London. Do you know them all?