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Language Survey

▼

Block 1

...

Welcome to the 2023 language & attitudes survey!

We would like to ask you a few questions about **language and how you think about it**, especially about **Canadian English**. This survey should take between **9** and **15** minutes. There is a **progress bar on top** for your orientation.


At the end, we'll ask you **social background questions** (e.g. your age group, gender, education). Some questions may be a bit specific (e.g. where your parents grew up) or unusual (e.g. places you lived). Your data will be anonymized and is protected by strict UBC Ethics regulations.

This survey is conducted for a University of British Columbia class (ENGL 489 001 - Language Majors' Seminar, taught by Prof. Stefan Dollinger). For any questions, please feel free to contact us or get in touch with my professor directly (dchp2project@gmail.com).

By continuing you agree that your anonymized data be used for analysis. You are free to discontinue the survey at any time.

UBC Research Ethics ID # H20-00061. If you have any concerns or complaints about your rights as a research participant and/or your experiences while participating in this study, contact the Research Participant Complaint Line in the UBC Office of Research Ethics at 604-822-8598 or if long distance e-mail RSIL@ors.ubc.ca or call toll free 1-877-822-8598.

▲

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▼

Linguistic Question Block

Q1

Please rate the following statement:

It is cool to speak more than one language.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Q2

Is multilingualism (speaking more than one language) an **important characteristic** of the Canadian population?

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Definitely yes
- ☐ Don't know

Q58

▼ [Skip to](#)

How important is it for you that Cana... if No Is Selected

Are you multilingual (do you speak more than one language)?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

Q13

How comfortable are you speaking **non-English languages in public** in Canada?

- ☐ Extremely uncomfortable
- ☐ Moderately uncomfortable
- ☐ Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable
- ☐ Moderately comfortable
- ☐ Extremely comfortable
- ☐ Does not apply to me (I don't live in Canada)

Q14

[Skip destination](#)

[Go to skip origin](#)

How important is it for you that Canadian media productions (e.g. CBC, Global News, Canadian Filmboard) **use Canadian linguistic features** (e.g. words, pronunciations and spellings)?

- ☐ Extremely unimportant
- ☐ Unimportant
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Extremely important

Q62

In a **private setting**, is it disrespectful to speak a language that not everyone in a group understands?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ That depends (please also explain if you can)
 not analyzed: open text field only
- ☐ Don't know

Q5

Have you heard of either "**Standard Canadian English**" or "Canadian Standard English"?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Not sure

Q63

Do you know what "**Standard Canadian English**" (or "Canadian Standard English") is?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, but I can't describe it well
- ☐ Yes, I do know. It is... (please describe briefly):

not analyzed (open text field only)

Q6

How do you, **personally**, pronounce "Z" (last letter of the alphabet)?

- ☐ zed
- ☐ zee
- ☐ both
- ☐ not sure

Q7

Select the spelling(s) of the following words **you use**. Select all that apply.

- ☐ color
- ☐ colour
- ☐ theatre
- ☐ theater
- ☐ pay cheque
- ☐ pay check
- ☐ travelled
- ☐ traveled
- ☐ recognise
- ☐ recognize

Not analyzed

Q18

Do you think that **Canadian spelling** is important (e.g. "colour" instead of "color", "familiarize" not "familiarise")?

- ☐ Very unimportant
- ☐ Unimportant
- ☐ Neither unimportant nor important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Don't know

Q19

Do you think Canadian university departments should encourage Canadian English spelling **in academic work**?

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Might or might not
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Definitely yes
- ☐ Don't know

Q3

When you think of the phrase "**Canadian English**", what comes to mind? Select all that apply.

- ☐ no particular words
- ☐ tolerant
- ☐ sophisticated
- ☐ lumberjack
- ☐ outdoorsy
- ☐ hockey
- ☐ prim and proper
- ☐ polite
- ☐ distanced
- ☐ other (please specify):
- ☐ other (please specify):
- ☐ other (please specify):

Not analyzed

Q4

In your opinion, is Canadian English a distinct kind of English (e.g. similar to American English being distinct from British English)?

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Definitely yes

Q8

In your opinion, is the spoken English used in Canada the same from western to eastern Canada (from coast to coast)?

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Definitely yes

Q12

Are you aware of any celebrities (personalities) **who position themselves as Canadian** or stress a Canadian dimension?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes (please specify who):
- ☐ Don't know

Q10

Which variety of English do you consider as **most prestigious**?

- ☐ American English
- ☐ Jamaican English
- ☐ British English
- ☐ Canadian English
- ☐ Singaporean English
- ☐ Irish English
- ☐ Other (please name):
- ☐ No particular variety

Q15

Can you generally **recognize Canadians by the English** they speak?

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never
- ☐ Don't know

Q17

Do you think that **language settings in software** should include an option for Canadian English? (e.g. text processing, Grammarly etc.)

- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Yes

Q20

Currently, there exists no digital English dictionary for Canada. **If freely available**, would you use **an online dictionary of Canadian English**?

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ No
- ☐ Neither yes or no
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Definitely yes
- ☐ Don't know

Q68



Would you be willing to pay for such dictionary (app and online)? Select the amount in dollars. Set at 0 if you would not pay anything.

	0	100
Amount in \$	<input type="text"/>	0

Q21

Do you recognize the use of "eh" in the following sentence **as Canadian**?

"It's been crazy weather lately, eh?"

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Might or might not
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Definitely yes
- ☐ Don't know

Q23

Generally speaking, do you think that Canadians say "sorry" more often than Americans?

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Might or might not
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Definitely yes

Q67



Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement.

"All people living in Canada should..."

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
... be able to speak English.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... be able to speak French.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... should have the chance to learn an Indigenous language spoken in Canada.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... be able to speak more languages than just English or French.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q9

In your opinion, is there a Canadian way of speaking English?

- ☐ Definitely not
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Probably yes
- ☐ Definitely yes

Page Break



Import from library

Add new question

Background

Please tell us now a little bit about yourself. Some questions might be a bit unusual, but please humour us. Your information will be guarded in accordance with strict UBC rules.

a

Please select your age group.

14 and under

b

In which country do you currently live?

Canada

c



▼ [Display this question](#)

If In which country do you currently live? Canada Is Selected

Or In which country do you currently live? United States Is Selected

In which province, territory or state do you live?

Alabama

d

What is your gender?

☐ female

☐ male

☐ non-binary

☐ other (please type here)

open text field not answered

e

Where did your **mother/guardian** grow up? (e.g. Vancouver, BC and Shanghai, China). Leave blank if unknown. **not analyzed**

f

Where did your **father/guardian** grow up? (e.g. Edmonton, Alberta, and rural Ontario). Leave blank if unknown. **not analyzed**

g

What level of education have you completed?

- ☐ elementary school
- ☐ high school
- ☐ undergraduate degree
- ☐ graduate degree
- ☐ post-graduate degree
- ☐ other (please specify):

h



Are you **currently** studying towards a degree?

I am not
currently
studying

☐

First year

☐

Second year

☐

Third year

☐

Fourth
year+

☐

Other degree (please
specify)

☐

I am in a
graduate
program

☐

I

Where did you **live** from ages **0 to 18**? Please list the locations with approximate life years:

0-9 Toronto, ON, Canada
10-12 Buffalo, NY, USA
12-17 Hamilton, ON, Canada
17-18 Hong Kong, China

Distilled into "Region"
9 or more years from 0-18 in
one province in Canada:
assigned province.
If not, assigned X, or country where
they spent their 9+ formative years

If too complicated, please summarize. We know this question is a bit cumbersome, but we'd like to assign you to a region that you represent best.

Age and place 1

Age and place 2

Age and place 3

Age and place 4

Age and place 5

Age and place 6

Age and place 7

Age and place 8

Other age & places? Please
list here

k



Which languages do you **know**? Please add a **rough overall skill level** for each language:

	beginner	intermediate	advanced	fluent
Language 1 <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language 2 <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language 3 <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language 4 <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language 5 <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language 6 <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language 7 <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

only analyzed to assess the “etic” EOI
Ethnic Orientation Index. Not otherwise
If someone claims to be “Irish-Canadian” and there is
no “Gaelic” or “Irish”, we stripped that in the etic
from them and were not assigned and EOI

n



How often do you use English in the following contexts?

	never	sometimes	often	always	not applicable
with friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
with relatives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
at home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
at work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
at school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

o

Do you think of yourself as of a distinct cultural background?
If so, how would you describe yourself (e.g. Filipino-Canadian, African American)?

☐ yes (please specify):

☐ no

Q69

[Display this question](#)

If Do you think of yourself as of a distinct cultural background? If so, how would you describe your... yes (please specify): Is Selected

How much contact do you have with people from your distinct cultural group in the following contexts?

	not at all	only a little	somewhat	very much	not applicable
in your neighbourhood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in religious worship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
in community activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
at work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

p

On average, **how much time a day** do you spend on social media (e.g. Instagram, Facebook, etc.)?

- ☐ I don't use social media
- ☐ less than 30 minutes
- ☐ 30 minutes to 1 hour
- ☐ 1-2 hours
- ☐ 2-4 hours
- ☐ 4-6 hours
- ☐ 6-8 hours
- ☐ more than 8 hours

Q70

That's it! Thank you kindly. Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?

not analyzed

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End of Survey

Thank you very much for your time. We appreciate it!

Your response has been recorded.

UBC Research Ethics ID # H20-00061.

If you have any concerns or complaints about your rights as
a research participant and/or your experiences while
participating in this study, contact the Research Participant
Complaint Line in the UBC Office of Research Ethics at 604-
822-8598 or if long distance e-mail RSIL@ors.ubc.ca or call toll
free 1-877-822-8598.