

ACCENT GROUP DISCUSSION - DIALECTS

1. What is a dialect? How is a dialect different from a language?
2. Do you speak a dialect? What would you call your dialect?
3. How do dialects develop? What factors influence them?
4. How many dialects are there in your language?
5. What dialect is considered the “prestige dialect” (the one that most successful people speak) in your country? Often this is the dialect spoken by newscasters on the national news.
6. Are there any stigmatized dialects in your country, i.e. ones that people try to change or ones that people discriminate against?
7. What are the major dialects in English? American English? World English?
8. Which dialects of English are the most difficult for you to understand?