

## EVALUATE THE SOCIAL FACTORS IMPACTING LANGUAGE VARIATION

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**Abstract:** *Variation is a characteristic of language: there are several ways of saying the same sentence. Speakers may differ in pronunciation (pronunciation), word choice (vocabulary), or morphology and syntax (sometimes called "grammar"). Language change is a fundamental concept of sociolinguistics to the extent that it requires reference to social factors. Language varies from one place to another, from one social group and from one situation to another. The fact that speakers of the same language living in different parts of a continuous territory do not speak the same language is a universal characteristic of human language, the speech of each settlement differs from the speech of each neighboring population by some features. It is also clear that social forces contribute to language change. Young people change their speech to distinguish themselves from adults. Islanders want to vote differently from the mainland. Middle-class speakers tend to sound different than working-class speakers, and vice versa. Men and women tend to speak in a way that their gender is "supposed to". After all, sometimes consciously and sometimes unconsciously, people talk like the people they want to think they are; linguistic differentiation is a matter of manifestation in everyday life.*

**Key words:** *ethnicity, occupation, income, examine, lower working, ordinary speech, standart variants, perfect codes*

## ОЦЕНКА СОЦИАЛЬНЫХ ФАКТОРОВ, ВЛИЯЮЩИХ НА ЯЗЫКОВОЕ ИЗМЕНЕНИЕ

**Аннотация:** *Вариативность — это характеристика языка: одно и то же предложение можно произнести несколькими способами. Говорящие могут различаться произношением (произношением), выбором слов (лексикой) или морфологией и синтаксисом (иногда называемым «грамматикой»). Изменение языка является фундаментальной концепцией социолингвистики в той мере, в какой оно требует ссылки на социальные факторы. Язык варьируется от одного места к другому, от одной социальной группы и от одной ситуации к другой. Тот факт, что носители одного и того же языка, проживающие в разных частях сплошной территории, не говорят на одном языке, является универсальной характеристикой человеческого языка, речь каждого поселения отличается от речи каждого соседнего населения некоторыми чертами. Ясно также, что социальные силы способствуют изменению языка. Молодые люди меняют свою речь, чтобы отличить себя от взрослых. Островитяне хотят голосовать иначе, чем на материке. Колонки среднего класса, как правило, звучат иначе, чем колонки*

*рабочего класса, и наоборот. Мужчины и женщины склонны говорить так, как «должен» их пол. В конце концов, иногда сознательно, а иногда бессознательно, люди говорят так, как им хочется думать; языковая дифференциация — это вопрос проявления в повседневной жизни.*

**Ключевые слова:** *этническая принадлежность, род занятий, доход, экзамен, нижний рабочий, обыденная речь, стандартные варианты, совершенные коды.*

Social Factors Driving Language Variation: Class, ethnicity and gender, age and education are the main social factors that play a role in language change.<sup>67</sup> Class is a structure of relationships between groups in which people are classified according to education, occupation and income. Ethnicity refers to a group of people who share cultural characteristics and are associated with the sexes associated with men and women. This division between groups on each factor contributes to differences in English language use.

Class: Labov's research examines and describes how class, ethnicity, and gender influence language change. One example of how class influences language change is evident in Labov's research in New York. It shows the social classes in four classes: lower working class, upper working class, lower middle class and upper middle class. It also shows speaking styles in three styles, which are casual, careful conversation and reading. According to the data, upper-middle-class speakers almost always use the standard variant and lower-working-class speakers almost always use the non-standard variant.<sup>68</sup> Each class prefers to use one pronunciation over another, regardless of the style of speech. However, the lower working class shifted from using *in* in ordinary speech to using *-ing* in reading style. The middle class uses more formal or "perfect" codes, while the working class uses public or "restricted" codes.

Ethnic groups: Ethnic groups are affected by language change because they usually have to learn the language that is popular in the region. Although they consider language as a part of their identity, they have to compromise their language and replace it with another language or combine both languages. Ethnic groups learn the dominant language in an area where the majority of the population speaks that language. The variety of their dominant language is called "substrate" because it shows the difference between the language and the language. Immigrants to a new place quickly learn the dominant language. Their language is called "adstrate" and it affects the way they speak the

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<sup>67</sup> Ulrich (ed.) 1979. Dialect and Standard in Highly Industrialized Societies. Special issue, International Journal of the Sociology of Language 21.

<sup>68</sup> Neville. n.d. Linguistic rights, language planning and democracy in post-Apartheid South Africa. In Baker, Steven J. (ed.), Language Policy: Lessons from Global Models. Monterey Institute of International Studies, 116–29.

dominant language.<sup>69</sup> Adstrat and substratum can create variations of the dominant language and can differ from the normal version of the language.

Gender: Gender influences language change by influencing language choices between men and women. Male and female speech levels differ. Men's language can be direct, non-standard and aggressive. Women's language can be less rough, emotional and standard. Many languages have alternative forms that are only used by men or women. In some cases, men and women speak different dialects or they do not speak the same language as each other. Trudgill concluded that women consistently use forms that are closer to the standard variety or authoritative accent than men use. In other words, female English speakers use linguistic forms that are considered better than male forms. It also makes it difficult to fully understand the opposite gender of each gender.

1. Speaker Age/Generation Difference: Age determines how English learners express themselves, and as a teacher you can easily see the difference in language change if you teach a class of children as opposed to an adult class. As Ali leaves his teenage years behind and becomes an adult, he gradually leaves behind the old ways of expression he used in spoken and written speech. For example, when Ali enters college, he becomes accustomed to formal ways of communicating with people. When he greets people, he says, "Hey, what's up?" does not feel comfortable saying. Instead, he prefers "Hello, good morning." It's not just because Ali is in college. This is because he is now mature and feels comfortable using formal language on his own. We often come across the term generation gap. There are clear differences between the younger and older generations, and this is naturally reflected in speech. We often hear older people complaining about the strange forms of language that young people carry and use. These different forms are usually nothing more than a temporary expression from pop culture that only lasts when it's fashionable. This is also a difference in word frequency, with different generations tending to use certain words and phrases more than others.

2. Education: Education is another social factor that plays an important role in language change. Within each dialect area, linguistic variation is observed according to education and social status. Uneducated speech is easily identified with a regional dialect, while educated speech transcends regional limitations. Assiri (2008) pointed out that the level of education of the speakers influences the choice of speakers to use standard and non-standard languages.

To conclude, we can say that language variation is an important topic in sociolinguistics because it refers to social factors in a society and how each factor plays a role in language varieties. Languages vary according to ethnic groups, social situations and specific locations. From Labov's research, people can learn that variation is a characteristic

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<sup>69</sup> Margaret. 1982. Diglossia in Greece. In Haas, W. (ed.), *Standard Languages, Spoken and Written*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 156–93. Google Scholar

of language that can be affected by class, ethnicity, gender, and education. People experience these changes by interacting with people of different ethnicities and social status. According to his research, Labov realized that there are many ways of speech and that each speech is influenced by social factors in society.

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