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**Australian English vs. British and American
English**

Bachelor's thesis

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UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS IN BRATISLAVA

FACULTY OF APPLIED LANGUAGES

Australian English vs. British and American English

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Affirmation

I hereby affirm, that I have worked out the final thesis independently and that I have listed all the used literature.

Date:

.....

(student's signature)

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ABSTRAKT

MIŠKOVIČOVÁ, Martina: *Austrálska angličtina vs. britská a americká*. – Ekonomická univerzita v Bratislave. Fakulta aplikovaných jazykov. - Ľudovít Barac, PhDr. – Bratislava: FAJ, 52s.

Cieľom záverečnej práce je poukázať na rozdiely medzi prízvukmi a slovnou zásobou troch svetových angličtín.

Práca je rozdelená do štyroch kapitol. Obsahuje 0 grafov, 4 obrázky, 9 tabuliek a 0 príloh.

Prvá kapitola je venovaná úvodu do teórie, ktorá pomôže pochopiť konkrétne príklady.

Nasledujúce kapitoly sa venujú analýze britskej, americkej a austrálskej angličtiny a ich špecifik.

Cieľom práce je poukázať na rozdiely medzi slovnými zásobami a tým predstaviť rôzne existujúce variácie anglického jazyka. Výsledkom riešenia danej problematiky je zhrnutie odlišností, ktoré sú typické pre rôzne formy angličtiny.

Kľúčové slová

language, accent, dialect, differences, features, variety, development, Received Pronunciation, rhoticity, Cockney, Geordie, Brummie, vocabulary, idioms, vowels, consonants, pronunciation, phonemic system, specifics, speaker, strine, symbols, globalization, meaning, sound

ABSTRACT

MIŠKOVIČOVÁ, Martina: *Australian English vs. British and American English*. – University of Economics in Bratislava. Faculty of Applied Languages . - Ľudovít Barac, PhDr. – Bratislava: FAJ, 52p.

The goal of this thesis is to pinpoint the differences between accents and vocabulary of the three world Englishes.

The paper is divided into four chapters. It includes 0 graphs, 4 pictures, 9 tables and 0 appendices.

The first chapter is dedicated to an introduction to the theory, which will help to comprehend the specific examples.

The following chapters analyze the British, American and Australian English and their features.

The aim is to point out the differences between vocabularies and accents and introduce the existing variations of the English language. The result of dealing with this problematic is a summary of specific features which are typical for different forms of the English language.

Key words

language, accent, dialect, differences, features, variety, development, Received Pronunciation, rhoticity, Cockney, Geordie, Brummie, vocabulary, idioms, vowels, consonants, pronunciation, phonemic system, specifics, speaker, strine, symbols, globalization, meaning, sound

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Introduction

This bachelor thesis focuses on the English language and its forms. It will analyze the term accent and explain the reasons why there are different accents. After the theoretical introduction, follows the analysis of three Englishes, and thus British, American and Australian. Every single one of these Englishes has specific rules as well as vocabulary.

The goal of this thesis is to highlight the features which help us distinguish one form of the English language from another and demonstrate the characteristics of the chosen accents. The first chapter is devoted to theory and explains the word accent as it is a complex term. An accent reveals information about every single person and reflects where we come from or where we have been. This chapter further on explains the reason why the accents vary.

The second chapter describes the British accent. In Britain it is distinguished between accents specific for England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland, but the accent which is considered to be typically British is Received Pronunciation. It is often described as Queen's English, Oxford English or BBC English. The accent which is well known for its specifics is Cockney and it is typical for the East End of London. Another accent called Geordie will be introduced in the second chapter as well. The Geordie accent is typical for native speakers born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and it is claimed to be one of the most complicated British dialects. The last accent which will be analyzed in the second chapter of this bachelor thesis is Brummie. Brummie refers to the accent of people from Birmingham, England. Generally speaking, Brummie accent does not have a good reputation. This fact is caused by stereotypes towards people from Birmingham.

American accent will be introduced and analyzed in the third chapter. One of the differences between British and American accent is that the consonant "r" is pronounced in the American accent and therefore it is a rhotic language. A rather specific American accent is Texan. From the historical point of view English was only a second language of the state of Texas. Spanish used to be spoken in this area before English.

The fourth chapter is devoted to the Australian English and its vocabulary concerning the history of the development of English from the Aboriginal languages. It focuses on Strine, the Australian vocabulary, which includes words influenced by Aboriginal languages.

1. What is an accent

The English language does not have only one correct form. In fact, it is known that we differentiate between various Englishes and each and every one of them is specific, meaning, that the accents distinct from each other and the vocabulary or catchphrases might even have a meaning of its own in every form of the English language. Based on a study from 2012, there are 88 countries in the world whose prominent language is English. This means that the English language is not only well spread all over the world, but is also dominant. British and American Englishes are often discussed more than the other varieties. The goal of this bachelor thesis is to introduce and compare Australian English with British and American. The very first step to do so is to explain all the important terms which allow us to characterize these Englishes.

Anthea Fraser Gupta, Senior Lecturer at the School of English at the University of Leeds explains what does the term accent mean : *“An accent is a way of pronouncing a language.”* (Anthea Fraser Gupta, 2004). The meaning of this quote is simple, it is impossible to speak without an accent. She further explains: *“Some people may think they do not have an accent. Or you may think that there are other people who do not have an accent. Everyone has an accent.”*(Anthea Fraser Gupta, 2004). An accent reveals information about every single person, meaning, that an accent reflects where we come from or where we have been. All the countries in the world have accents which are specific for them, but when speaking of a person his or her accent exposes his or her personality. This person may be an American, but he or she lives in France now, this person adjusts to the French language which may influence his or her accent, so after some time the accent can change. To summarize this thought it is necessary to state that an accent is not only specific for a country, but also for a person.

The reason why every country has a different accent is very complex, but the easiest way to explain it is that we need to imagine a single group which got split into two separate groups living on separate islands. Since accents are influenced by people, every group will develop a different dialect. These differences would become obvious after, at least, one generation. As the time proceeds the dialect develops and changes. Anthea Fraser Gupta explains the reason how this process happens: *“Separate development accounts for some accent variation. But sometimes we need to talk about the first generation of speakers of a*

particular language brought up in a new place. The first children to grow up in a new place are very important. The children who grow up together are a 'peer group'. They want to speak the same as each other to express their group identity. The accent they develop as they go through their childhood will become the basis for the accents of the new place.”(Anthea Fraser Gupta, 2004). Based on this quote it is possible to state that language is always developing and that is an ongoing process which will never come to an end.

United Kingdom, USA and Australia have many typical accents. One of the main reasons why is geographical. As mentioned before, geography plays an important role in the development of languages, because a certain group of people living in the different parts of a country causes that the dialect and the accent develop to a different form of a language and even though the common language is English, vocabulary, catchphrases and accent vary.

2. The British accent

In Britain we differentiate between accents specific for England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. Naturally within these geographical parts of Britain are even more dialects, but they refer to a smaller group of people, for example to a part of a region, a part of a town or an ethnic group.

These main accents vary when it comes to stress placement in words, sentences, accented syllables, vowels or consonants, but the accent that is often seen as typically British is the RP accent.

2.1 Received Pronunciation

RP, short for Received Pronunciation, is also described as Queen's English, Oxford English or BBC English, even though this is a little misleading. RP refers to a Standard English, which means that the speakers need to avoid all non-standard grammatical constructions. RP English does not reveal clues about speaker's background, social or educational, as well as geographical. Even though this is described as "typically British" the truth is that only 2% of Great Britain speaks with this very accent. As the matter of fact only a negligible number of people in Scotland or Northern Ireland speak it and it has not such a prestige in Wales either, so RP is rather English than British accent.

RP is a non-rhotic accent, which means, that the consonant "r" is not always uttered. This feature of British English is most likely to be seen when the last letter of a word is the consonant "r", for example in words such as car, better, bitter or when the consonant is placed in the middle of a word and this occurs in words such as word, farm, curse etc.

2.2 Cockney

After RP, Cockney is one the most famous English accents. It is typical for the East End of London. Cockney as well as every other accent has its specifics which were presented by Ben Trawick-Smith, who is among other things also a dialect expert:

"Raised vowel in words like trap and cat so these sounds like "trep" and "cet."

Non-rhoticity.

Trap-bath split¹.

¹ Certain 'a words' (*bath, can't or dance*) are pronounced with the *broad-a* like in the word *father*

² Allophone refers to one of the phonetically distinct variants of a phoneme, which differ in terms of

London vowel shift: The vowel sounds are shifted around so that Cockney “day” sounds is pronounced IPA dæɪ (close to American “die”) and Cockney buy verges near IPA bɔɪ (close to American “boy”).

Glottal Stopping: the letter t is pronounced with the back of the throat (glottis) in between vowels; hence better becomes IPA beʔə (sounds to outsiders like “be’uh”).

L-vocalization: The l at the end of words often becomes a vowel sound Hence pal can seem to sound like “pow.” (I’ve seen this rendered in IPA as /w/, /o/, and /u/.)

Th-Fronting: The th in words like think or this is pronounced with a more forward consonant depending on the word: thing becomes “fing,” this becomes “dis,” and mother becomes “muhvah.””(Ben Trawick-Smith, 2011)

2.3 Geordie

The Geordie accent is typical for native speakers born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The theories of the origin of Geordie say that the term comes from the name George. It is often mistakenly understood, that Geordie is spoken in whole area of North East of England, it is strictly spoken only in the area of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and the surrounding urban area called Tyneside and Geordie is a continuation and development of the language spoken by the Anglo-Saxon settlers. Geordie is claimed to one of the most complicated British dialects and probably the most common feature of Geordie according to Ben Trawick-Smith is that “**us**” is often replaced by “**we**” e.g. ..., she took we, she wouldn’t let we go, I mean, she, she did, she’d always took we on these trips...Even when “**we**” is used, it is reduced and becomes a schwa e.g. ...she took wuh, she wouldn’t let wuhgo, I mean, she, she did, she’d always took w’on these trips...

The other feature is that words such as *bite*, *bout* or *burt* overlap with Received Pronunciation of words *bait*, *boot* or *bought*.

These are some examples of how Geordie is different from other dialects

nee - no

doon - down

dee - do

propa - very, really or significantly

gan - go

owa - over

divvin' - don't

neet - night

bairn 'child'

bonny 'pretty'

burn 'stream'

muckle 'very'

keek 'peep'

howay 'come on'

sweer 'obstinate'

donnered 'stupid'

clarts, clarty 'mud, muddy'

gulley 'large knife'

cuddy 'horse'

sackless 'stupid, useless'

sneck 'door latch, nose'

stot 'bounce'

spuggy 'sparrow'

spelk 'splinter'

glaiky 'slow-witted'

howk 'dig'

dottle 'cigarette ash, droppings'

cushat 'wood pigeon'

hadaway 'go away, you're kidding'

aye 'yes'

gob 'mouth'

give over 'stop it'

chuffed 'happy'

wisht 'be quiet'

nowt 'nothing'

nigh on 'nearly'

bullets 'sweets'

stanners 'stony river margin'

lonnen 'a lane'

chare 'a lane'

pet 'term of address for females'

mairk 'maggot, pest'

gowk 'apple core'

dunsh 'push, bump'

deek 'see, look at'

bowk 'belch'

lop 'flea, louse or their eggs'

ket 'rubbish'

marra 'friend, mate'

bait 'food'

bubble 'weep'

hoppings 'funfair'

hacky 'dirty'

lowp 'jump'

bool 'wheel (e.g. pram)'

ten o'clock 'morning snack'

hoy 'throw'

hockle 'spit'

cree '(bird) cage'

get 'stupid person'

kiff 'very good'

netty 'toilet'

The typical Geordie vocabulary is to be seen in idioms which are confusing for foreigners as well as Brits. These are examples of the use of some idioms:

- Geet walla: very or very large
e.g. "There's a geet walla queue at Asda, gan to Morrisons instead, marra.
(marra=friend)
- Give your 'ead a wobble: to rethink something
- Giz a bag o' crisps: no, I don't fancy him/her
- Monkey's blood: raspberry or strawberry flavour sauce put on ice cream raspberry or strawberry flavour sauce put on ice cream
- Set-a-had: to set on fire
- Howay man!: exhortation or encouragement, can be both positive and negative
- wey aye, man!: proclamation of positivity or agreement
- on ya honkas: to crouch down low on all fours
- up a height: in a state of high emotion/upset
- had ya pash: take your time, be patient <http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/geordie-sayings-top-56-things-6466922>

2.4 Brummie

Brummie refers to the accent of people from Birmingham, England. Generally speaking, Brummie accent does not have a good reputé, in fact it is often associated with words such as “thuggish” or “thievish” and that is a result of stereotypes.

Brummie accent uses downward intonation meaning that the sentence ends with lower pitch of the voice causing that the ending “simply fades away“. Here are the best examples of Brummie vocabulary used in everyday conversations:

A

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • <u>A Bag of suck</u> (sweets) | • <u>Ales Owen</u> (halesowen) | • <u>Astin</u> (aston) |
| • <u>Aar kid</u> (our kid) | • <u>Alley Boy</u> (alibi) | • <u>Aynit</u> (is it not) |
| • <u>Ahr wow</u> (i wont) | • <u>Alloy</u> (friend) | • <u>Azzo</u> (as though) |
| • <u>Air</u> (the wife) | • <u>Arffa</u> (half) | |
| | • <u>Ark</u> (listen) | |

B

- Bab(babe)

- babbee(baby)
- barmy(insane)
- Baygoona(not going to)
- Booza(pub)
- Bordsloy(Bordesley)
- Bronical(chest trouble)
- Buzz(bus)

C

- Caggy Handed(left handed)
- Cake hole(mouth)
- cannabea(can of beer)
- cannalarga(can of larga)
- canting(talking)
- Cartin(cartoon)

D

- Daynt(dont)
- Donnies(hands)
- Doolally(barmy)
- Dower(door)
- Duck(woman)

E

- Ersun(her son)

F

- Fake(cigarette)
- Ferra(for a)
- Fizzog(fizzog)
- Flower(floor)
- flyered(fired)
- Foive Wez(five ways)
- Foyer(fire)
- Freud(fried)

G

- Gaffer(boss)
- Garraway(really)
- Glarnies(marbles)
- Gob(mouth)
- Goo(go)
- Gooin(going)
- Gorra cobb on(bad mood)

- Grett bar(great bar)
- Gunna(going to have to)
- Guzz(goes)

H

- Horse Pickle(hospital)

I

- Injin(engine)

J

- Jawanna(do you wana a)

K

- Kaylied(drunk)
- keednoy(kidney)
- Kekkle(kettle)
- Kinnoy(can i)
- Kipper Tie(cup of tea)

L

- Lard'Ed(thick)
- Larpom(toilet)
- Loik(like)
- Loiter(lighter)
- Ludge Eel(lodge hill)
- Lung(long)

M

- Mardy(grumpy)
- Misses(wife)
- Mizzley(cold and wet)
- Morkins(stupid)
- Mowta(car)
- Mucka(good friend)

N

- Nah(no)
- Noyse(nice)

O

- Oh Ahrr(Yes)
- Oil(I will)
- Om(i am)
- On a loin(annoyed)
- Ooroyt(alright)
- Oya(hello)

P

- Parky(chilly)
- Pays(peas)
- Ploise(please)
- Point(pint)
- Poise(pie)
- Poyper(paper)

Q

- Quoit(quite)

R

- Rayjoe(radio)
- Rezza(resevoir)
- Rocks(Sweets)

• <u>Roit Bosta</u> (the best)	• <u>Ta</u> (thanks)	• <u>Wench</u> (girl)
• <u>Rowud</u> (road)	• <u>Ta Rah</u> (goodbye)	• <u>Werk</u> (work)
• <u>Rung</u> (incorrect)	• <u>Take up</u> (tea cup)	• <u>Wernit</u> (was it not)
S	• <u>Tay</u> (it is not)	• <u>Wozapannin</u> (whats going on)
• <u>Safta</u> (afternoon)	• <u>Teheay</u> (there)	• <u>Wuddenill</u> (stairs)
• <u>Scrubba</u> (prostitute)	• <u>Tests</u> (tastes)	• <u>wum</u> (home)
• <u>Sharrabang</u> (coach)	• <u>Turts</u> (it hurts)	• <u>Wundin</u> (walk around)
• <u>Sheldin</u> (Sheldon)	• <u>Tuth</u> (tooth)	Y
• <u>Skooill</u> (school)	• <u>Tuttie Pegs</u> (baby teeth)	• <u>Yed</u> (head)
• <u>Slash</u> (wee)	W	• <u>Yerat</u> (hat)
• <u>stoik</u> (steak)	• <u>Waggin It</u> (truant)	• <u>Yo Cor</u> (you cant)
• <u>Stroids</u> (trousers)	• <u>Wamul</u> (dog)	• <u>Yow No</u> (you know)
T	• <u>Waskit</u> (wasistcoat)	

The vowel sounds are the key to the understanding Brummie. In Brummie, 'oy' is used instead of 'I'. For example: 'Oy kwoyt loik it' (I quite like it). The 'u' as in 'hut' is lengthened to become 'oo' as in 'took'. The 'o', 'a' and 'ar' are under-articulated. The 'i' as in 'pit' becomes 'ee' as in 'feet'. In stronger versions, 'you' becomes 'yow' and a 'y' at the end of a word becomes 'ay'. On behalf of consonants, they may be over-articulated, especially in cases of “g” or “ng” and native speakers roll their tongue when pronouncing “r”.

This example demonstrates how different Brummie pronunciation is especially in comparison with RP.

- Birmingham is one of the largest cities in the United Kingdom. It is *berminggum is wun uv the Larges citays in the u-nyted kingdom.*
- It is probably most famous for the Bull Ring and Spaghetti Junction, but it has *pRRobebLay moest faymus fer the buLLRRingg und spegettee jungshun, but ittaz*
- a lot more to offer. The National Exhibition Centre is a great source of *eLo- mor to offa. The nashnel eksibishun senta is a gRRayt sawss uv*
- pride to the local inhabitants and steps have been taken in recent years to *pRRoid te the lowkel in-abitents und steps av bin tayken in RResunt yeers*

to improve the appearance of the city.
impRRoov the appeeRents uv the citay.

In addition to all accents it is important to mention a phonemic system which is used for transcription of words. It helps people all over the world to grasp the basic concept of the spoken language. This chart of consonants and vowels serves as a better overview when speaking of British phonological system.

VOWELS	monophthongs				diphthongs		Phonemic Chart voiced unvoiced	
	i:	ɪ	ʊ	u:	ɪə	eɪ		
	sheep	ship	good	shoot	here	wait		
	e	ə	ɜ:	ɔ:	ʊə	ɔɪ		
	bed	teacher	bird	door	tourist	boy	show	
	æ	ʌ	ɑ:	ɒ	eə	aɪ	aʊ	
	cat	up	far	on	hair	my	cow	
CONSONANTS	p	b	t	d	tʃ	dʒ	k	g
	pea	boat	tea	dog	cheese	June	car	go
	f	v	θ	ð	s	z	ʃ	ʒ
	fly	video	think	this	see	zoo	shall	television
	m	n	ŋ	h	l	r	w	j
	man	now	sing	hat	love	red	wet	yes

The 44 phonemes of Received Pronunciation based on the popular Adrian Underhill layout

adapted by **EnglishClub.com**

Picture 1 English phonemic chart <https://www.englishclub.com/pronunciation/phonemic-chart.html>

3. The American accent

The American accent is, unlike the British one, rhotic, meaning that the consonant “r” is pronounced. Generally speaking, the differences concerning pronunciation are very obvious and of course, it is not only about rhoticity. The trap-bath split does not occur in American English and therefore the vowel “a” has in this accent a different pronunciation. This phenomenon is typical for words: **glass** /glɑ:s AmE glæs/ or **nasty** /'nɑ:sti AmE 'næsti/. One of the other specifics other than the pronunciation of the vowel “a” is the pronunciation of the vowel “o” in words such as hot /hɒt AmE hɑ:t/ or dot.com /,dɒt'kɒm AmE ,dɑ:t'kɑ:m/. Another difference which must be mentioned for accuracy is the use of a flapped /'flæpt/ t /t/ in words like butter /'bʌtər AmE 'bʌtɚ/, British /'brɪtʃ AmE 'brɪtʃ/ or dirty /'dɜ:rti AmE 'dɜ:tj/. Even though IPA (International Phonological alphabet) is used world-wide, there exist rules typical for a specific part of the USA. This chart for North American English shows the differences:

The Consonants of North American English and Their Phonemic Symbols (Based on the symbols used in <i>Teaching Pronunciation</i>)					
Phonemic Symbol	Examples	Phonemic Symbol	Examples	Phonemic Symbol	Examples
/b/	boy, cab	/z/	zoo, buzz, goes	/l/	long, full
/p/	pie, lip	/s/	see, city, bus, thinks	/r/	run, car
/d/	dog, bed	/ʒ/	leisure, beige	/w/	win, swim, away
/t/	toe, cat	/ʃ/	shy, dish, special	/y/	you, loyal
/g/	go, beg	/h/	his, ahead	(/hw/) (Most speakers of both American and British English do not use /hw/ as a separate phoneme. They use /w/ instead.)	(which, what)
/k/	cat, kit, back	/dʒ/	joy, giant, budge		
/v/	view, love	/tʃ/	cheek, watch, cello		
/f/	fill, phone, life	/m/	me, seem		
/ð/	the, bathe	/n/	no, sun		
/θ/	thin, bath	/ŋ/	sing, singer, think		

The Vowels of North American English and Their Phonemic Symbols (Based on the symbols used in <i>Teaching Pronunciation</i>)			
Phonemic symbol	Examples	Phonemic symbol	Examples
/iy/	beat, see, machine	/uw/	boat, blue, shoe
/ɪ/	bit, him	/u/	book, full
/ey/	bait, made, they	/ow/	boat, home, blow
/e/	bet, leg, head	/ɔ/	bought, saw
/æ/	bat, has, apple	/ɑ/	box, car, father
/ʌ/	but, mother	/ay/	bite, sight
/ə/	sofa, until, combine	/aw/	about, cow
		/oy/	boy, noise

Picture 2 The vowel and consonant chart for North American English
<http://teachingpronunciation.weebly.com/phonemic-symbols-nae.html>

3.1 Texan dialect

From the historical point of view English was only a second language of the state of Texas. Spanish used to be spoken in this area before English. The language as it is known today began to develop in 1820s and as the result, English became widely spoken and slowly became dominant. The language development was influenced by Anglos who moved rapidly to Texas bringing their slaves. Significant mixture of various dialects was also caused by migration of Germans, Austrians, Czechs, Poles or Italians from Europe.

The Texan accent has its own specifics and perhaps those which are well known among English speakers are “y’all”, “fixin’” or “may could”.

1. **Y’all:** the second person plural pronoun
2. **Fixin to:** getting ready to do something, something is starting, getting something ready: It is fixing to rain. / I am fixing him a sandwich.
3. **May could** – as in: “*I might could do that.*” This phenomenon is breaking the rules of Standard English, but as researches show, this expression is used among every social classes.
4. **Plural ending “s”:** “Me and my sister goes to the same school.”
5. **“It” instead of “there”:** “It is nothing more to say.”
6. **“Ah” instead of “I”:** “Ah do not know.”
7. **Omission of “g”:** “Ah’m takin’ you out tonight”
8. **„Ah'mo“ instead I am going to:** “Ah'mo get back to work.

Texan dialect has as every other dialect a specific vocabulary and the next chart offers some examples:

Table 1 Words typical for the region of Texas

aggravated	everything from mild annoyance to dangerous, murderous rage
all choked up	upset
Arbuckle	a synonym for coffee, when the Arbuckle brand was virtually the only one available.
blue norther	storm that comes up as a giant, blue-black cloud of cold air comes over the warm gulf air

catty whompus	Something out of line
Crusty	tough and/or bad tempered man, woman or horse
whomperjawed	something that is not fitting properly, e.g., “You'll never get that wine open, the corkscrew is all whomperjawed!”
truck	food

Texan dialect also has very specific idioms:

- **Like a one-legged man at a butt-kicking contest.** (extremely frustrated, or perhaps out of place)
- **Like a long-tailed cat in a room full of rocking chairs.** (extremely nervous)
- **Somebody who looks like he/she has been rode hard and put up wet.** (A tired individual who looks somewhat the worse for wear.)
- **Look at somebody/something like a calf looks at a new gate.** (With either confusion or dismay)

Texas Sayings

"Evil thoughts are like chickens-they come home to roost."

"Tend to your own knittin'/rat killin'." (Mind your own business!)

"You done stopped preachin' and gone to meddlin'." (You're sticking your nose into my business)

4. The Australian accent

Australian English, just like any other form of the English language has a specific accent as well as vocabulary. This English was influenced by the colonial settlement around 1830. The language needed new words, which would describe various things such as flora or fauna and these new words were inspired by Aboriginal languages, which include for example coolibah, wombat, wallaby and others.

The accent as it is known today started to develop at the end of the nineteenth and at the beginning of the twentieth century, when a new concept of the British English called Received Pronunciation came to life. Due to the close relationships that the Brits and Australians had, some speakers originated in Australia started to modify the accent typical for that period of time to impersonate the British one, because Received Pronunciation was a matter of prestige. This teaching process was supposed to improve the language so it would be considered equal in comparison with the prestigious British accent which differed from the Australian in the pronunciation of diphthongs or vowels and in order to complete the task it had to be modified. The result of this process is a form of Australian speech called “Cultivated Australian”, which was for decades viewed as the “typical Australian” even though it has lost its value in the long run.

Just like in any other country the accents in Australia vary from region to region. Based on *broadness continuum* we distinguish between three main accents:

- 1.) **Broad** - this category is distinguished by pronunciation of six main vowels in words such as beat, boot, say, so, high, how
- 2.) **General** – This accent has become a standard, because it is not associated with broad or cultivated Australian English.
- 3.) **Cultivated** – This accent is associated with British affiliation, affectation and effeminacy, as popular as it was at the beginning of the twentieth century it has lost its prestigious value as the twentieth century progressed.

The Australian English differs from other Englishes in:

the vowel system

- inventory and phonetic characteristics
- relationships between elements

- allophonic² and reduction processes

the consonantal modifications

- phonotactics³
- connected speech processes
- allophonic processes

suprasegmental and voice quality differences

Even though there are official dialects, the speech has many forms and we refer to one of them as to a speaking style. Speaking style is characterized by the situation in which people find themselves. Due to this specific situation can be said that the language used is either formal or informal. The differences between formal and informal language do not concern only vocabulary, in fact, it is known that speech in informal communication process is less carefully monitored, meaning that people do not put emphasis on the correctness of their speech. On the other hand formal speech is monitored more carefully and elements such as articulation are emphasized, because they are a matter of previously mentioned prestige. These next pictures show the Australian phonemic chart:

Consonant symbols for Australian English

.....

/p/	pie	/θ/	thigh	/g/	guy
/b/	buy	/ð/	thy	/ŋ/	hang
/m/	my	/s/	sigh	/h/	high
/f/	fie	/z/	zoo	/tʃ/	chin
/v/	vie	/ʒ/	rye	/dʒ/	gin
/t/	tie	/l/	lie	/ʃ/	shy
/d/	die	/w/	why	/ʒ/	Asia
/n/	nigh	/k/	kite	/j/	you

Picture 3 Australian Phonemic chart: Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-14589-3 - Australian English Pronunciation and Transcription, Felicity Cox

² Allophone refers to one of the phonetically distinct variants of a phoneme, which differ in terms of aspiration, voicing, and point of articulation.

³ Phonotactics is concerned with the freedoms and restrictions that languages allow in terms of syllable structure.

Vowel symbols for Australian English

HCE	MD	Example word
i:	i	beat
ɪ	ɪ	bit
e	e	bet
e:	eɔ	cared
æ	æ	bat
ɛ:	ɑ	Bart
ɐ	ʌ	but
ɔ	ɒ	pot
o:	ɔ	bought
ʊ	ʊ	put
u:	u	boot
ɜ:	ɜ	Bert
æɪ	eɪ	bait
aɪ	aɪ	bite
ɔɪ	ɔɪ	Boyd
æɔ	ao	bout
ɔʊ	oo	boat
ɪɔ	ɪɔ	beard
ɔ	ɔ	the (not 'thee')

Picture 4 Australian Phonemic chart: Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-14589-3 - Australian English Pronunciation and Transcription, Felicity Cox

The process of globalization has caused that many Australians have problems with Australian spelling especially due to the high frequency of American words and spelling which occur in the media and technology. Computers or smart phones offer a variety of languages for users from all over the world, but when it comes to the English language, only one, the American, is an option. This phenomenon causes confusion among non-Americans, but still English speakers. To fight with this kind of confusion people usually use online spellcheckers, but the situation repeats itself and the spellcheckers offer most of the time only the American version. This is a proof, that there are two Englishes at most, which are considered to be valuable and Australian English is not one of them. Such occurrence of American words is obvious only to those people whose language has been ignored in the era of smart technologies due to a generally spread opinion that one version of a language is sufficient. American English and Australian English differ from each other and this concerns pronunciation, stress placement or even spelling. Fiona Lake, a writer and a photographer is an expert on Australian culture and offers useful examples which help us understand the differences.

“Address — Australians pronounce it as one long word without pause or emphasis on any particular syllable, whereas in the U.S., emphasis is given to the first syllable, thus it's pronounced "add-ress".

***Dynasty** - Australians pronounce it 'din-asty' whereas the U.S. pronunciation is 'dine-asty' with more emphasis on the first syllable (similar to 'address')*

***Exit** — Australians pronounce it 'Ecks-it' whereas in the U.S. it is pronounced 'eggzit'.”*
(Fiona Lake, 2012)

To emphasize the diversities even more, here is a short list of words used specifically but differently in American and Australian English:

4.1 Australia vs. America

Autumn — fall	Jelly— jell-o
Bag — sack	Lift — elevator
Bedside cabinet, cupboard or table — nightstand	Mozzy — mosquito
Beetle — bug	Nappy – diaper
Bloke — guy	Queue — line
Bushfire — forest fire, wildfire	Takeaway — take out
Dummy — pacifier	Verandah— porch
Footpath, pavement — sidewalk	Motorbike — motorcycle
Fringe — bangs	

Table 2 American vs. Australian English

Word	American	Australia
Boot	Something that goes on your foot	The trunk of a car
Texta	marker	A marker & also a brand
Thong	G-String (the underwear)	A sandal held on the foot by a strip
Fortnight	2 weeks	A period of fourteen consecutive days
Soft drink	soda/ pop / soda-pop	Nonalcoholic beverage (usually carbonated)
Takeaway	to-go	Prepared food that is intended to be eaten off of the premises
Lemonade	Drink made from lemon juice, sugar, and water – not carbonated	Fizzy lemon drink
Pissed	Very angry	Some who is drunk

Chemist	Pharmacy / Drug store	The place you buy medicine, shampoo, cough syrup and lotion
Ute	Truck	An automotive vehicle suitable for hauling
Napkin	A piece of paper or cloth you use to wipe your face and hands when you eat	A women's sanitary product
Barbie	It's an anatomically incorrect female doll that comes in a pink box	What you put beef, shrimp and chicken on to grill it outside
Rubber	A contraceptive device	An eraser

4.2 Australia vs. UK

This next chart demonstrates vocabularies of the British and Australian English and clearly demonstrates how one language varies.

British English	Australian English
A	
a good job	a good lurk
Absolutely!	Reckon!
accident	prang
afternoon	arvo
aggressive	aggro
alcohol	grog
alcohol	booze
American	Yank
angry	berko
Australian	Aussie, Strine
B	
beer	amber
beer glass (285 ml)	middy, pot
biscuit	Bickie
C	
Car paint	Duco
cheap wine	plonk
chicken	chook
chocolate	chokkie
criminal	bushranger
D	
dockworker	wharfie
drunk	pissed
E	
engine (car or boat)	donk
evening meal	tea
exact information	good oil
excellent	ace
F	
far away in the outback	back of beyond
farm	station
fast sheep shearers	ringer (in the country)
field	paddock

food	tucker
G	
game	brave
Go away.	Shove off.
H	
horses	neddies
How are you?	How are you going?
I	
idiot	dill, drongo
information	oil
it	she
it's fine	she's apples
K	
kangaroo	Roo
L	
lavatory	Loo
M	
Middle of nowhere	back of bourke
Milk bar (South Wales)	deli
milkman	milko
N	
nonsense	piffle
non-stop talk	earbush (old)
P	
postman	postie
R	
remote desert country	never-never
road for trucking cattle by road trains	beef road
S	
sandwiches	cut lunch
sausage	snag
shark meat	flake
sheepdog	kelpie
sheepfarmer	woolgrower
Shut up.	Belt up.
soldier	digger
stupid person	Alf
swiming costume	bathers
T	
tea kettle	Billie
teacher	chalkie
to complain	to grizzle
to give up	to give it away
to have a look	to gander
trousers	daks, strides
U	
underpants (men)	jocks
undertaker	mortician

V	
vegetable extract (used for sandwiches)	vegemite
vegetables	vegies
W	
waterhole	billabong
Well done!	Good on ya!

Table 3 British and Australian English – Vocabulary http://www.english-hilfen.de/en/words/british_australian_english.htm

4.3 Varieties of English used by native-born speakers

- **Standard Australian English (AusE)**
 - This variety of English language is used more in settings such as for official purposes, public purposes, and it is also recorded in dictionaries, style guides and grammars. SAE is considered to be the “common language” of Australians.
- **Aboriginal English**
- As linguist J.M. Arthur stated: ” *The term Aboriginal English refers to the form of English used by Aboriginal people. Often inaccurately called ‘pidgin’ Aboriginal English is actually a complete language, incorporating elements of Standard Australian English and many Aboriginal languages.* ”(J. M. Arthur, 1997)
- **Various ethno-cultural Australian English dialects yet to be adequately describe .e .g. Lebspeak** which is an Arabic-English used by immigrants

The Aboriginal English includes words which are often used by native speakers, but the most specific feature of this English is that many words carry a different meaning compared to the Standard English. J. M Arthur is well known for work in the field of Aboriginal English and his book Aboriginal English published by Oxford University Press in 1996 helps his followers and students even now.

dangerous	"effects of spiritual powers"
law	“something closer to spirituality and continuity with the past”
story	a sense of truth and history
protect	"harass, hound"
clean	to burn a stretch of country to perform its regular maintenance

deadly	"great, fantastic, terrific"
poison	"a person in an avoidance relationship"
home	"institution for children removed from families"

Table 4 – The meaning of English words in Aboriginal English,
(http://www.dnathan.com/eprints/dnathan_____1999_review.pdf)

The aboriginal words became a natural part of the Australian language and even Aboriginal words differ from region to region. The next examples highlight the aboriginal words used in different parts of Australia according to J. M. Arthur:

- Policeman
 - **monatj** in Western Australia
 - **booliman** in Queensland
 - **gunji** or **gunjibal** in New South Wales
- White man
 - **balanda** in Arnhem Land (Northern Territory)
 - **gubba** or **gub** in south eastern Australia
 - **migaloo** in Queensland
 - **wajala** in Western Australia
 - **walypala** in parts of northern Australia

This example introduced the differences between aboriginal words in different parts of Australia and the following example pinpoints how aboriginal words are used in the whole country according to Australian National Dictionary center:

Table 5 Aboriginal words in Australian English

aerial ping-pong	a jocular (and frequently derisive) name for Australian National Football
akubra	A shallow-crowned wide-brimmed hat, especially one made from felted rabbit fur
ambo	An ambulance officer
arvo	Afternoon, e.g. see you Saturday arvo
Barcoo	The name of the Barcoo River-reference for the hardships, privations, and living

	conditions of the outback
billabong	A pool or lagoon left behind in a river or in a branch of a river when the water flow ceases
kylie	boomerang
wog	A minor illness such as a cold
rooned	ruined
Tallarook: things are crook in Tallarook	a catchphrase for any bad situation
tart	an offensive slang term for a girl or woman
pommy	Extremely dry
drongo	a 'fool', a 'stupid person'

This next table demonstrates how aboriginal words are used in SAE. Aboriginal words represent a great part in Australian identity, because it used to be spoken by the majority of Australians and therefore it represents a connection with roots.

Table 6 Aboriginal vs. Standard Australian English

Aboriginal English	Standard Australian English
camp	home
mob	group
big mob	a lot of
lingo	Aboriginal language
sorry business	ceremony associated with death
grow [a child] up	raise [a child]
growl	scold
gammon	pretending, kidding, joking
cheeky	mischievous, aggressive, dangerous
solid	fantastic
to tongue for	to long for

Sounds in Aboriginal English may also differ. One of the most significant features is found in words which start with a vowel, where the Standard English translation starts with “h”:

“H” used in Aboriginal English

Aboriginal English	standard English	Aboriginal English	standard English
Enry's at	Henry's hat	Huncle Henry	Uncle Henry

The traditional Aboriginal English does not have the „h“ sound what is a common feature of Cockney. As the language evolved Australians learned English, but with their aboriginal accent which meant that “h” still did not have a place in their Aboriginal English. Even though the “original” Aboriginal English does not have the sound “h”, it can be found in English words which transferred to the Aboriginal language. Due to comparison with Cockney is this feature often mistakenly understood is a sign of lack of education.

Due to the lack of the “h” sound at the beginning of words plays “hypercorrections” a significant part in Aboriginal English. It is a mistaken correction of a text or speech caused by a desire to avoid nonstandard pronunciation or grammar.

- initial 'd' in AE corresponds to initial 'th' in SE

Aboriginal English	standard English
---------------------------	-------------------------

dere	there
------	-------

dat	that
-----	------

- initial 'b', 'p' in AE corresponds to initial 'v', 'f' in SE

Aboriginal English	standard English
---------------------------	-------------------------

bight	fight
-------	-------

Grammatical feature of Aboriginal English

Aboriginal speakers tend to ask a question using a statement with rising intonation and they often end it with a question tag such as “**eh**” which is used in the whole country, “**inna**” used in South Australia or “**unna**” used in the south west of Western Australia.

Table 7 Aboriginal vs. Standard Australian English

Aboriginal English	standard English
You still sitting there that time?	You were still sitting there then? Were you still sitting there then?
They bite, eh?	They bite, don't they?

Another specific feature of Aboriginal English is the shortening of words by not adding the endings 's as the short form of the verb to be.

Table 8 Aboriginal vs. Standard Australian English

Aboriginal English	standard English
E my cousin brother.	He's my cousin.
They just normal, but they steel.	They're just normal, but they're steel.
My uncle back there.	My uncle's back there.
E big.	He's big.

Existential sentences are sometimes expressed with the Noun Phrase structure which is followed by “**there**”.

Table 9 Aboriginal vs. Standard Australian English

Aboriginal English	standard English
Three pies there, eh?	Are there three pies?
When the river go down, this little island there.	When the river goes down, there's a little island

4.4 STRINE

What makes the Australian English so special is STRINE. STRINE contains words typical for Australia which have different meaning in comparison with other Anglophone countries. It is natural that the Australian vocabulary has its origin also in British vocabulary and slang but generally is said that Australians take the English language as a game and they have with it.

- A
- Act: Pretending to be something you're not
 - Aggro: Aggressive
 - Alf: Stupid person
 - Amber or Amber fluid: Beer
 - Apple Eater: Resident of Tasmania
 - Arvo: Afternoon
 - Aussie (pronounced "Ozzie"): Australian
 - Avagoyermug: Traditional rallying call, often heard at cricket
 - Award wage: Minimum pay rate
-
- B
- Back of beyond: Far away in the outback
 - Back of Bourke: The middle of nowhere
 - Bag: Lady who is not particularly pleasant
 - Bail out: Leave
 - Bail up: Hold up, rob, earbash
 - Banana Bender: Resident of Queensland
 - Barbie (Barbecue): Like a cook out
 - Barrack: To cheer on a team at a sporting event
 - Bastard: General form of address which can mean practically anything from highest praise ("a good bastard") to worst insult ("a rotten bastard")

- Bathers: Swimming costume (Victoria and South Australia)
- Battler: Hard trier, struggler
- Beaut, beauty, bewdie: Very good. Excellent
- Belt up!: Shut up!
- Berko: Angry
- Bible basher: Minister, or any proselytising Christian
- Bickie: Dollar
- Big mobs: Large amount, heaps
- Bikies: Motorcyclists
- Bitumen: Surfaced road
- Black Stump: Out towards the horizon. A long way away
- Bloke: Person, usually a male
- Bludge: Not doing anything or getting things from others
- Bludger: Lazy person
- Blue: A fight
- Bluey: A swag; or the nickname of someone with red hair
- Bonzer: Great, ripper
- Boomer: Very large; a particularly large male kangaroo
- Booze: Alcohol, usually beer
- Booze bus: Police van used for random breath testing for alcohol
- Bottle shop: Liquor shop
- Buckley's: No chance at all
- Bug (Moreton Bay bug): Small crab
- Bullamanka: Imaginary place even beyond back of Bourke, way beyond the black stump
- Bull dust: Fine and sometimes deep dust on outback roads
- Bunyip: Mythical bush spirit, mainly associated with rivers, with an overtone of cuteness
- Burl: Have a try, as in "give it a burl"
- Bush: Somewhere in the country or away from the city. Go bush means go back to the land
- Bushbash: Force one's way through pathless bush
- Bushranger: Outlaw, analogous to the outlaws of the American Wild West

(some goodies, some baddies)

- Bush tucker: Native foods, usually in the outback

-
- C
- Caaarn!: Traditional rallying cry at football games (contraction of "Come on!")
 - Camp oven: Large, cast-iron pot with a lid, for cooking on an open fire
 - Captain Cook: To have a look
 - Cask: Wine box
 - Chiko roll: Australian junk food
 - Chook: Chicken
 - Chuck: Chuck has a few meanings. It can mean to throw or to put in
 - Chuck a U-ey: Make a U-turn
 - Chunder: Vomit, drive the porcelain bus, kerbside quiche, pavement pizza, liquid laugh, rainbow sneeze, technicolour yawn
 - Cleanskin: Unbranded cattle
 - Clobber: Clothes; to hit
 - Cobber: Mate (archaic)
 - Cocky: Small-scale farmer
 - Come good: Turn out all right
 - Compo: Compensation, such as workers' compensation
 - Conk: To hit someone (archaic)
 - Cooee: Bush greeting
 - Corroboree: Aboriginal meeting, with ceremonial dancing. *Corroboree* is also a ballet by Australian composer John Antill (1904-1986)
 - Counter meal, country: Pub meal
 - Cow: Also means anything that is difficult
 - Cow cocky: Small-scale cattle farmer
 - Cozzie: Swimming costume (New South Wales)
 - Crook: Ill, badly made, substandard
 - Crow Eater: Resident of South Australia
 - Cut lunch: Sandwiches
-

- D
- Dag, daggy: Dirty lump of wool at the back end of a sheep, also an affectionate or mildly abusive term for a socially inept person

- Daks: Trousers
- Damper: Bush loaf made from flour and water cooked in a camp oven
- Dead horse: Tomato sauce
- Deli: Delicatessen. Milk bar in South Australia and Western Australia
- Dijeridu: Cylindrical musical instrument played usually by Aboriginal men
- Dill: Idiot
- Dillybag: Small bag to carry things
- Dinkie die: The whole truth
- Dinkum, fair dinkum: Genuine or honest
- Divvy van: Police divisional van
- Do your nana: Lose your rag, spit the dummy, lose your temper
- Dob In: To tell (an authority) on someone
- Donk: Car or boat engine
- Don't come the raw prawn: Don't try to fool me
- Down south: The rest of Australia, according to someone north of Brisbane, Queensland
- Drive the porcelain bus: Vomit
- Dry, the: Dry season in the north
- Drongo: Worthless or stupid person
- Duco: Car paint
- Dunny: Outdoor lavatory
- Dunny budgies: Blow flies

-
- E
- Earbash: Non-stop talk
 - Eastern states: The rest of Australia, according to someone in Western Australia
 - Enzedder: New Zealander
 - Esky: Large insulated box for keeping beer etc. cold, (short for Eskimo box)
 - Evo: Evening
-

- F
- Fair crack of the whip!: Fair go!
 - Fair dinkum: Genuine or honest
 - Fair go: Give some a chance or an opportunity to do something
 - Financial: To be flush with cash

- FJ: Most revered Holden car
 - Flake: Shark meat, used in fish and chips
 - Flaming: All-purpose intensifying adjective
 - Flat out: As fast as possible
 - Floater: Meat pie floating in pea soup, viewed by Australians either as a great delicacy or as a great emetic
 - Flog: Sell; steal
 - Fossick: To hunt for gemstones
 - From arsehole to breakfast: All over the place
 - Furphy: A rumour or a false story
-

- G
- Galah: Noisy parrot, thus noisy idiot
 - Game: Brave
 - Gander: Have a look
 - Gaol: Australian and British variant spelling of "jail"
 - Garbo: Garbage collector
 - G'day: A greeting. It is the Aussie way of saying good day
 - Gibber or gibby: Aboriginal word for stony desert
 - Give it away: Give up
 - Going "troppo": Going tropical; laid-back and fun-loving; insane
 - Good oil: Accurate information
 - Good possie: Advantageous position
 - Good on ya!: Well done!
 - Grazier: Large-scale sheep or cattle farmer
 - Grizzle: To complain
 - Grog: General term for alcohol
 - Grouse: Very good, unreal
 - Gum Sucker: Resident of Victoria
 - Gumtree: Eucalyptus
 - Gutzer: Some plans don't work out or to have an accident (to come a gutzer)
-

- H
- Hire: To rent, as "to hire a car"
 - His nibs: The boss

- Homestead: Residence of a station (ranch or farm) owner or manager
 - Hooley: Wild party
 - Hoon: Idiot, hooligan, yahoo
 - Hooly-Dooly: An expression of surprise
 - Hotel: Sometimes means only a pub
 - How are ya?: Standard greeting
 - HQ: Second most revered Holden car
 - Hump: To carry
-

- I
- Icy-pole: Frozen lolly water or ice cream on a stick
 - Identity: Celebrity
 - In full feather: In fine health
 - In yer boot!: An expression of disagreement (archaic)
 - It's a goer: Something that will definitely occur
-

- J
- Jack-in-the-box: Person who can't sit still
 - Jackaroo or Jillaroo: Trainee on a cattle station (ranch or farm)
 - Jingo!: Exclamation of wonder
 - Jocks: Men's or boys' underpants
 - Joe Bloggs: The average citizen
 - Joey: Baby kangaroo, still in the pouch
 - Journo: Journalist
 - Jumbuck: Sheep
 - Jumped-up: Full of self-importance; arrogant
-

- K
- Kafuffle: Argument
 - Kanga or kangaroo: Shoe
 - Keen as mustard: Enthusiastic
 - Kelpie: Sheep dog or cattle dog
 - Kerb: Alternative Australian and British spelling of "curb"
 - Kerbside quiche: Vomit
 - Kick: To share or join in
 - Kick-in: to provide your share. The pot (kitty) is called the "kick"

- Kip: Sleep or nap
 - Kiwi: New Zealander
 - Knackers: Testicles (also love spuds, nuts, nads)
 - Knock: To criticise
 - Knocker: One who criticises
 - Kombi: Multi-purpose van-like vehicle, often modified so the back seats were folded down to get a mattress in the back
 - Koori: Aborigine (mostly south of the Murray River)
-

- L
- Lair: Layabout, hooligan
 - Lairise: To behave in a vulgar, flamboyant manner
 - Lamb-brained: Stupid
 - Lamington: Sponge cake cut into squares, covered in chocolate and coconut
 - Larrikin: Ruffian or hoodlum
 - Lay-by: To put a deposit on an article so a shop will hold it
 - Licensed: Legally permitted to sell alcoholic drinks
 - Like a bandicoot on a burnt ridge: Lonely and vulnerable
 - Liquid laugh: Vomit
 - Lob: Arrive
 - Lollies: Candy or sweets
 - Lolly: Money
 - Loo: Lavatory or toilet
 - Lot: The whole thing
 - Lurk: Scheme (no negative connotation)
-

- M
- Ma Stater: Resident of New South Wales
 - Mad: Crazy (seldom means anger)
 - Mallee: Remote bushland of Victoria
 - Manchester: Household linen
 - Mate: This usually means a friend but it can be used to talk about or to anyone - even a total stranger
 - Matey with: Familiar or friendly with
 - Matilda: The belongings of a swagman, wrapped in a blanket or bedroll

- Middy: 285 ml beer glass (New South Wales)
 - Milk bar: Corner general store
 - Milko: Milkman
 - Mob: Group of person or things (not necessarily unruly)
 - Mozzie: Mosquito
 - Mug: Either a fool or your face.
-

- N
- Naff: Ridiculous, useless
 - Nana: Banana
 - Nark: Spoilsport
 - Narked: Annoyed
 - Neddies: Horses
 - Never-never: Desert region far away in the outback
 - Nick: To steal
 - Nick out: Go somewhere for short period of time
 - Nit: Fool or idiot
 - No hoper: Hopeless case
 - No shortage of oscar: To be flush with money
 - No worries!: Everything will be fine!
 - Noise off: Speak loudly
 - North Island: Mainland Australia, according to someone in Tasmania
 - Northern summer: Summer in the Northern Hemisphere
 - Nulla-nulla: Wooden club used by Aborigines
 - Num-nums: Tasty food
-

- O
- Ocker: Uncultivated or boorish Australian
 - Off-sider: Assistant or partner
 - Oil: Information
 - On a good lurk: To have a good job
 - OS: Overseas
 - Outback: The bush, or uncivilised uninhabited region
 - Oy!: An ocker's call; hey!
 - Owyergoin: How are you going? Often used with "G'day" and "Mate"

- OYO: On your own (flat or apartment)
 - Oz: Australia, as in Oz-tralia
-

- P
- Packed out: Filled to capacity
 - Packet: Large sum of money, an envelope
 - Paddock: Field or meadow
 - Pally: On friendly terms with
 - Paper yabber: Letter
 - Parcel: Package
 - Pastoralist: Large-scale grazier
 - Pavement pizza: Vomit
 - Pavlova: Traditional Australian meringue and cream dessert, named after Russian ballerina Anna Pavlova
 - Pearler: Excellent
 - Perve: To gaze with lust, purview
 - Pester: Annoy or bother someone
 - Petrol: Gasoline
 - Piffle: Nonsense
 - Pinch: To arrest
 - Pineapple, rough end of: Stick, sharp end of; misfortune
 - Piss: Alcohol, usually beer
 - Piss turn, piss up: Boozy party
 - Piss weak: No good, gutless
 - Pissed: Drunk
 - Pissed off: Annoyed
 - Pivot on: Consider
 - Plant the foot (to the floorboards): Drive fast
 - Plonk: Cheap wine (contemptuous contraction of "vin blanc")
 - Poddy dodger: Cattle rustler. Poddy calves are milk-fed but not by a cow
 - Poker machine, pokies: Slot machine or fruit machine but with playing card pips. Found in clubs mainly in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia
 - Pom or Pommy: English person
 - Pooftee: Homosexual

- Possie: Position
 - Postie: Postman
 - Pot: 285 ml glass of beer (Victoria and Queensland)
 - Prang: Accident or crash
 - Proprietary (Pty.): Company (Co.)
 - Pub: Any hotel. A favourite meeting place of many Australians
 - Push: Group or gang of people, such as shearers
 - Putt-putt: Any small vehicle
-

- Q
- Q: Thank you (mumbled)
 - Quack: Doctor, especially if not very good
 - Quick smart: In a hurry
 - Quids: A lot of money
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- R
- Rainbow sneeze: Vomit
 - Rapt: Delighted, enraptured
 - Ratbag: Someone who does not behave properly
 - Raw Prawn: A lie or a con job
 - Razoo: Fictitious coin, as "I haven't a brass razoo"
 - Reckon!: You bet! Absolutely!
 - Rego: Registration, as in car rego
 - Ridgy-didge: Original, genuine
 - Ringer: Fast sheep shearer
 - Ripper: Good
 - Road train: Multi-trailer semi truck. Legal only in Northern Territory
 - Roo: Kangaroo
 - Roo bar: Metal rod on front of vehicles to protect against kangaroo strikes
 - Root: Have sexual intercourse
 - Rooted: Tired
 - Ropable: Very ill-tempered or angry
 - RS: Lousy (rat shit)
 - Rubbish: To tease, as in "to rubbish"
 - Rug up: Dress for warmth

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- S
- Sack: To dismiss from a job
 - Salvo: Member of the Salvation Army
 - Sandgroper: Resident of Western Australia; sand-burrowing desert insect
 - Scallops: Fried potato cakes (Queensland and New South Wales), shellfish (elsewhere)
 - Scheme: System or method (no negative connotation)
 - School: Group of drinkers, each of whom buys a round
 - Schooner: Large beer glass (New South Wales, South Australia)
 - Screamer: Noisy drunk
 - Scrub: Can be the same as the bush or it can mean areas in the country without many trees
 - Sea wasp: Deadly box jellyfish
 - Sealed road: Surfaced road
 - See you in the soup: See you around
 - Semitrailer: Articulated truck
 - Septic: Disparaging term for an American ("septic tank" rhymes with "Yank")
 - Session: Lengthy period of heavy drinking
 - Sheila: Female or woman
 - Shellacking: Complete defeat
 - She'll be right!: Everything will be fine!
 - Shivoo: Rowdy party (archaic)
 - Shonky: Unreliable
 - Shoot Through: To leave or disappear in a hurry
 - Shout: Pay for someone else, particularly a round of drinks
 - Shove off!: Go away!
 - Shirty: To get upset or angry
 - Sickie: Day off work ill, or malingering
 - Silk shirt on a pig: Something wasted
 - Sink the boot: Go in hard
 - Skint: Broke
 - Skite: To boast
 - Slab: 24 cans (tinnies) of beer, shrink-wrapped as a unit

- Slog: Hard work
- Smoko: Smoke or tea break
- Snag: Sausage
- Sport: More general way to refer to someone rather than a mate
- Spunky: Good-looking, attractive as in "what a spunk"
- Square off: Apologise and make reparations
- Square up: Prepare to fight (as in boxing)
- Squatter: Large landowner who originally occupied land as a tenant of the government
- Squattocracy: Australian "old money" folk, who made their fortunes by being first on the scene and grabbing the land
- Station: Large farm or ranch
- Sticky beak: Nosy person
- Stinger: Deadly box jellyfish
- Strewth!: It's the truth! An exclamation, often of surprise
- Strides: Daks, trousers
- Strine: Australian slang ("Australian" spoken in strine)
- Stubby: 375 ml bottle of beer
- Sunbake: Sunbathe
- Surfy: Surfing fanatic
- Swag: Canvas-covered bedroll used in the outback
- Swagman: Vagabond, rural tramp
- Swimmers: Swimming costume (Queensland, Victoria)

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- T
- Take away food: Take-out food
 - Tall poppies: Achievers, often a disparaging term
 - Tariff: Rate
 - Taswegian: Resident of Tasmania (patterned after "Norwegian")
 - Tea: evening meal
 - Technicolour yawn: Vomit
 - Tee up: Organise or arrange
 - Telly: The television
 - Thingo: Thing, whatchamacallit, whomajigger, hooza meebob, doo velacki,

thingamajig

- This arvo: This afternoon
 - Thongs: Rubber sandals, flip-flops
 - Tinny: Can of beer. Also a small aluminium fishing dinghy (Northern Territory)
 - Togs: Swimming costume (Queensland, Victoria)
 - Too right!: Absolutely!
 - Top End: Northern part of the Northern Territory
 - Top Ender: Resident of the Northern Territory
 - Trucky: Truck driver
 - True blue: Dinkum
 - Tucker: Food. Australian schools call their canteens a "tuckshop"
 - Twit: Fool or idiot
 - Two-pot screamer: Someone who can't hold his liquor
 - Two-up: Traditional Australian heads/tails gambling game, played with 2 coins
 - Tyre: Australian and British spelling of "tire"
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- U
- Underdaks: Underwear
 - Uni: University
 - Up a gumtree: In a quandary
 - Up north: New South Wales and Queensland, according to someone in Victoria
 - Ute: Utility truck or vehicle
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- V
- Vee-dub: Volkswagon car
 - Vegemite: Popular vegetable extract used as sandwich spread
 - Velvet: Highly profitable or advantageous
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- W
- Waffle: Nonsense
 - Wag: To skip school or work
 - Walkabout: Lengthy walk away from it all
 - Wallaby track, on the: To wander from place to place in search of work (archaic)
 - Waltz Matilda: To carry a swag
 - Weatherboard: Wooden house
 - Wet, the: Rainy season in northern Australia

- West Island: Australia, to a New Zealander
 - Wharfie: Dockworker
 - Whinge: Complain and carry on unnecessarily
 - Whomajigger: Term for person or thing whose actual name one can't remember
 - Willy-nilly: Small dust twister. Also, without thought
 - Wobbly: Disturbing, unpredictable behaviour, as in "throw a wobbly"
 - Woomera: Stick used by Aborigines to throw spears
 - Wowser: Spoilsport or puritan
-

- Y
- Yabbie: Small freshwater crayfish
 - Yahoo: Noisy and unruly person
 - Yahooing: Boisterous behaviour
 - Yakka, yakker: Hard work, an Aboriginal term
 - Yank: American
 - Yankee shout: A round of drinks in which everyone pays his own. Yank tank:
An American car
 - Yobbo: Uncouth, aggressive person
 - Yonks: Ages, a long time
 - Youse: Plural of you

Summary

This bachelor thesis introduced and explained the term accent and focused on British, American and Australian English. It focused on the differences between these three Englishes and especially on the differences between vocabularies.

The first chapter stated that we need to imagine a single group which got split into two separate groups living on separate islands. Since accents are influenced by people, every group will develop a different dialect. This is one of the reasons why there are significant differences not only between United Kingdom, America and Australia but also between dialects within a country.

The second chapter analyzed four British accents Received Pronunciation, Cockney, Geordie and Brummie and offered examples from vocabularies. The words from their vocabularies are so specific, that even native speakers have troubles with understanding their meaning.

The third chapter characterized American accent and Texan dialect, which has rules and vocabulary of its own. In comparison with the British English, American is rhotic meaning, that Americans pronounce the consonant “r”.

The last chapter focuses on the Australian English. It is common, that even though there exist several forms of English, only one is seen as the “official” and that one is American. Australians have their own vocabulary which is typical only for them and some people struggle due to the fact that their English is ignored. One of the most important goals of this bachelor thesis was to point out all the special features which make the Australian English unique. Many words have their origin in Aboriginal languages and they represent the Australian identity since the use of these words is a matter of pride as well. Due to this exact reason was the aim of this thesis to introduce the rich vocabulary which is for many people more than unknown. To understand the differences better, the fourth chapter offers examples which demonstrate the differences between British, American and Australian English. The English language has many forms and every single one of them is unique and that is the reason why people should focus on other varieties of the English language as well. Australian English has its own rules when speaking of grammar or vocabulary and because of this fact people should get to know it better.

Resumé

Táto bakalárska práca sa zaoberá tromi prízvukmi, britským, americkým a austrálskym. Austrálska angličtina je pre mnohých neprebádaná. Vo všeobecnosti sa jej nevenuje veľká pozornosť a z toho dôvodu je potrebné poznať zákonitosti aj iných angličtín, než britskej a americkej. Aby bolo pochopenie vlastností austrálskej angličtiny jednoduchšie, je dobré ju porovnať s tými najznámejšími a najfrekventovanejšími angličtinami, čiže britskou a americkou. Na základe porovnávania je možné objasniť špecifiká všetkých troch menovaných prízvukov.

Prvým krokom k pochopeniu vypracovanej problematiky je vysvetlenie pojmu prízvuk. Prízvuk je spôsob, akým vyslovujeme a rozprávame v určitom jazyku. Angličtina nemá len jednu správnu podobu, naopak rozlišujeme medzi viacerými variáciami tohto jazyka. Na základe štúdie, ktorá pochádza z roku 2012 sa zistilo, že angličtina je prominentným jazykom až v 88 krajinách sveta a jej podoba sa líši v každej z týchto krajín.

Prízvuk sa ľuďom môže počas života dokonca zmeniť. Závisí to aj toho, či človek strávil dlhšiu dobu v zahraničí, kde bol vystavovaný cudziemu jazyku. V prípade takejto situácie sa môže stať, že pôvodný prízvuk zoslabne, preto je nutné si uvedomiť, že prízvuk nie je typický len určitú krajinu ale taktiež aj pre človeka. Teória zaoberajúca sa rozličnosťou prízvukov hovorí, že na to aby sme pochopili dôvod, prečo sa od seba prízvuky líšia, si musíme predstaviť skupinu ľudí. Táto skupina sa následne rozdelí na dve polovice a každá žije na inom ostrove. Keďže sú to ľudia, kto ovplyvňuje prízvuk, už po jednej generácii budú jasne viditeľné odlišnosti medzi prízvukmi jednotlivých skupín.

Nasledujúca kapitola sa venuje britskému prízvuku. Vo Veľkej Británii rozlišujeme medzi niekoľkými hlavnými prízvukmi a to anglickým, waleským, severoírsnym a škótskym. Prirodzene poznáme aj iné prízvuky, no tieto sú základné. Tie ostatné sú charakteristické pre určitú časť Veľkej Británie, skupinu ľudí, región či mesto. Prízvuk, ktorý sa označuje ako typicky britský je RP, čiže Received Pronunciation a často sa taktiež označuje ako kráľovná angličtina, BBC angličtina či oxfordská angličtina, i keď tieto prívlastky nie sú celkom správne. Tento prízvuk nie je typický pre konkrétnu oblasť a neodhaľuje žiadne znaky týkajúce sa geografického prostredia človeka. Received Pronunciation sa síce považuje za typicky britský prízvuk, no opak je pravdou a len 2% ľudí ním v skutočnosti rozprávajú. Hlavným znakom RP je, že spoluhláska „r“ sa zreteľne vysloví, čo je najpočetnejšie v slovách, ktoré sa na túto spoluhlásku končia alebo v slovách kde sa „r“

nachádza v strede slova. Ďalší prízvuk ktorému sa v tejto práci venuje pozornosť je Cockney. Ten sa považuje za jeden z najznámejších britských prízvukov. Je charakteristický pre východnú časť Londýna a jedným z jeho znakov sú, že spoluhláska „r“ sa nevyslovuje alebo že spoluhláska „l“ sa na konci slova nahrádza „w“. Britské prízvuky sú veľmi špecifické a každý jeden má vlastnú slovnú zásobu a pravidlá. Jedným z najkomplikovanejších britských prízvukov je Geordie. Najtypickejším znakom tohto prízvuku je že „us“ sa často nahrádza s „we“. Tento jav spôsobuje ťažkosti v komunikácii najmä cudzincom. V tejto časti práce sa nachádza aj slovník, ktorý charakterizuje, aký špecifický tento prízvuk je, keďže ponúka výrazy typické pre Geordie a následne aj oficiálny britský výraz. Prízvuk, ktorý vo Veľkej Británii nemá dobrú povesť je Brummie. Intonácia v Brummie je klesavá, čo spôsobuje, že koniec vety ide do stratena. Po stručnej charakteristike prízvuku nasleduje slovník, ktorý ponúka výrazy v Brummie a taktiež aj ich oficiálne znenie. Týmto spôsobom sa rozdiely medzi jednotlivými prízvukmi a dialektmi pochopia najlepšie. Po slovníku nasleduje ukážka toho, ako Brummie funguje v konkrétnej vete a teda veta ktorá je napísaná v oficiálnej britskej angličtine je foneticky prepísaná do prízvuku Brummie.

Americký prízvuk sa od britského líši vo viacerých aspektoch. Jedným z nich je, že spoluhláska „r“ sa vyslovuje a preto je rotický. Ďalším rozdielom je výslovnosť samohlásky „a“, ktorá sa v britskej angličtine vyslovuje podobne ako „á“. Najvýraznejší americký prízvuk je texaský. Jeho história siaha do začiatkov 19. storočia. Angličtina bola v štáte Texas pôvodne druhým jazykom a tým prvým bola španielčina. Texaský prízvuk ako ho poznáme dnes, sa začal vyvíjať počas príchodu prisťahovalcov z Európy. V tomto období išla španielčina do úzadia a angličtina sa stala dominantným jazykom. Pre lepšie pochopenie prízvuku sú v tejto časti vysvetlené taktiež aj špecifiká ako „y'all“ či „fixin“, ktoré patria k hlavným znakom texaského dialektu. Tento dialekt patrí k tým najpestrejším americkým prízvukom a preto sa v kapitole zaoberáme aj špecifickými výrazmi a idiómami či prísloviami, ktoré často pochopia len obyvatelia danej oblasti.

V dnešnej dobe sa venuje najväčšia pozornosť americkej angličtine, no je potrebné si uvedomiť, že angličtina je hlavným jazykom v mnohých krajinách sveta a každá angličtina je unikátna. Austrálska angličtina je taktiež špecifická a má veľké množstvo jedinečných výrazov pochádzajúcich z aboriginálnych jazykov, ktoré ovplyvnili vývoj súčasného jazyka. Kvôli úzkym vzťahom Británie a Austrálie sa v Austrálii rozšíril prízvuk RP. Cieľom bolo napodobniť britský prízvuk ktorý predstavoval určitú prestíž. Výsledkom

tohto napodobňovania bola „cultivated Australian“ a tá predstavovala upravenú verziu RP prízvuku. Proces globalizácie spôsobil, že austrálčina prevzala mnoho výrazov z americkej angličtiny. Všeobecne sa tvrdí, že amerikanizácia má na svedomí ústup ostatných angličtín. Dôvodom je aj technický pokrok. Technika nám síce ponúka výber takmer všetkých jazykov, no nezvykne ponúkať inú než americkú angličtinu. V tejto kapitole sa venujeme aj rozdielom medzi britskou a austrálskou a medzi americkou a austrálskou angličtinou. Týmto spôsobom je možné poukázať na rozdiely medzi angličtinami. Zaujímavosťou je aj to, že niektoré slová majú v austrálčine iné významy. K týmto slovám patrí *deadly*, *law*, *clean* a iné. Aboriginálne jazyky boli špecifické pre každú časť Austrálie a preto sa niektoré výrazy povedia inak v rôznych aboriginálnych jazykoch. Z týchto aboriginálnych jazykov sa vyvinula aboriginálna angličtina a Austrálčania považujú používanie aboriginálnych slov za určitú formu patriotizmu. Ďalej sa venujeme tejto slovnej zásobe, ktorá má v austrálčine pevné miesto do dnešného dňa. Austrálsky slovník sa nazýva *Strine* a predstavuje súhrn slov, ktoré sú typické pre tento jazyk a po preštudovaní tohto slovníka je očividné, kde spočívajú rozdiely v slovných zásobách rôznych angličtín.

Anglický jazyk má mnoho pestrých podôb. V dnešnej dobe, kde sa presadzuje hlavne americká angličtina, je nutné si uvedomiť, že angličtina nie je len jedna a to americká. Práve tento dôvod náš inšpiroval k napísaniu práce, ktorá by predstavila rozmanitosť anglického jazyka.

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